ADMINISTRATION REPORT

OF THE

FIRKA DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

FOR THE PERIOD ENDING
31ST DECEMBER
1949

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MADRAS
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FIRKA DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

Subject.

Firka Development Department—Administration Report, 1949.

Madras, the 15*th July* 1950.

From

SRI G. VENKATACHALAPATHY,
PROVINCIAL FIRKA DEVELOPMENT OFFICER.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
FIRKA DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT,
MADRAS.

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SIR,

I submit herewith the Administration Report of the Firka Development Department on the work done under the Intensive Rural Reconstruction Scheme in the selected firkas and centres in the State.

2. As this is the first Administration Report that will be published on the work done under the Firka Development Scheme, a self-contained report explaining the details of the scheme and the work done from the commencement of the scheme to the end of December 1949 is presented.

Yours faithfully,
G. VENKATACHALAPATHY,
Provincial Firka Development Officer.

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ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE FIRKA DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1949.

Introduction.

The Firka Development Scheme is a new and promising activity of the Madras 'overnment based on the Gandhian plan of rural reconstruction, which has immense ıntialities for the welfare of the masses living in the villages. It attempts to co... and revitalize our village life. It is the outcome of the recognition that for...-round improvement of rural life demands the highest priority among the ...ities of a modern welfare state. The Madras State, like other States in India, is ...nly a land of villages. But, for some considerable time past, owing to a variety of causes greater attention had been paid to the growth and improvement of towns and cities and the majority of the villages were sadly neglected. The result is that most of the educated and wealthy people have deserted the villages and migrated into the towns and cities. In fact a number of villages to-day present a decaying and desolate appearance. The progress and prosperity of our State, as indeed of the whole of India, depends largely on its villages in which live more than 80 per cent of its population ; and it is for resuscitating and enriching village life that the Firka Development Scheme was started by this Government. Its aim is to improve the living conditions in the villages and to create in the villagers an active and intelligent interest in their problems and make them self-confident and self-reliant. Emphasis is specially laid on the improvement of the economic and sanitary conditions, because the main objective of the scheme is to organize the villages for a happier, fuller and more prosperous life " in which the individual villager will have the opportunity to develop both as an individual and as a unit of well-integrated society."

2. Based as our scheme is on the Constructive Programme of Mahatma Gandhi, its aims and objects are best described in the Mahatma's own inimitable language. " My idea of Village Swaraj " said the Mahatma " is that it is a complete republic, independent of its neighbours for its vital wants, and yet inter-dependent for many others in which dependence is a necessity. Thus every village's first concern will be to grow its own food crops and cotton for its cloth. It should have a reserve for its cattle, recreation and playground for adults and children. Then, if there are more lands available, it will grow *useful* money crops, thus excluding *ganja*, tobacco, opium and the like. The village will maintain a village theatre, school and public hall. It will have its own water works ensuring clean supply. This can be done through controlled wells and tanks. Education will be compulsory up to the final basic course. As far as possible every activity will be conducted on the co-operative basis." This, in essence, is what the Madras Government hope to ...chieve through their Intensive Rural Reconstruction Scheme.

3. The Government's intention is that the selected firkas and centres should be ...veloped on the basis of self-sufficiency as far as possible, so that there will be ... strong superstructure based on the co-operation of well-organized units. Every ...deavour will be made to create self-sufficiency in food and clothing in these ...llages. But it has to be remembered that self-sufficiency in food and to some extent ...en in clothing depends upon the soil, climate and water-supply, as these factors ...rgely determine the nature of the crops which can be grown in any particular ...ea. Consequently in some villages or firkas it may not be possible to achieve ...is object. But, the goal will always be kept in view and steadily pursued in all ...eas where it is practicable. The fundamental aim of the scheme being thus the ...-round improvement of rural life, it will be readily seen that its success depends ... a large extent on the co-ordination of the work of the various nation-building departments like, Education, Agriculture, Irrigation, Industries, Public Health, etc.

Selection of areas:

4. The Government started the intensive rural reconstruction work in 34 selected firkas and centres with a view to gradually extend it throughout the State. A firka is a convenient unit. Firkas where some work had already been done in model villages or where there were some non-official agencies already at work, or where there was manifest enthusiasm which could be put to some constructive use were selected first.

5. The selection of the firkas was also based on considerations of general backwardness of the firka in regard to communications, sanitation, lighting, water-supply, etc., presence of electric installation in or within the easy reach of the fi[illegible] or centre, the presence of available conditions for intensifying the product[illegible] hand-loom cloth and for the development of other cottage industries.

Administrative set up and personnel.

6. The Collector of the district has been placed in direct charge and is prima[illegible] responsible for the successful working of the Rural Reconstruction Scheme in his district. Each selected firka is in charge of a Firka Development Officer of the rank of a Deputy Tahsildar and under him there are Grama Sevaks of the rank of Revenue Inspectors, one for each of the four or five groups into which each firka or centre has been divided. The necessary subordinate staff have also been provided for.

7. A Provincial Firka Development Officer of the status of a head of a department has been appointed to be in direct provincial charge of the Government's Scheme of Rural Reconstruction, Khadi and Cottage Industries in the selected areas. He is generally concerned with the technical aspect of the scheme and is responsible for its proper co-ordination and execution. The Provincial Firka Development Officer is at present assisted by two Regional Firka Development Officers.

Sri G. Venkatachalapathy took charge of the post of the Provincial Firka Development Officer on the 16th July 1947 and continued to hold it throughout.

Sri T. V. Raghava Rao, B.A., who was appointed as the Regional Firka Development Officer for the Northern Range at the commencement of the scheme continued to be the Regional Firka Development Officer (North) throughout the period under review.

Sri R. Vinayakam Pillai, M.A., B.L., was in charge of the post of the Regional Firka Development Officer (South) previously designated as Assistant Commissioner from the commencement till 22nd May 1947 when he resigned. Sri S. Lakshmirathan Bharathi, M.A., B.L., took over charge of the post from 1st April 1948 and continued to hold it throughout.

Financial arrangement.

8. A special fund of Rs. 4 crores has been constituted for financing genera[illegible] schemes of rural reconstruction, Harijan uplift, cottage industries and khadi scheme[illegible] A sum of rupees one crore has been set apart from this fund for financing gener[illegible] schemes of rural reconstruction. As the intention of the Government is that the intensive rural reconstruction scheme which aims at implementing Gandhiji's Constructive Programme should be carried on as a permanent measure, the Government contributed a further sum of Rs. 5 lakhs to the fund for village reconstruction and Harijan uplift during 1949–50.

9. The Government of India have recognized the scheme as eligible for financial assistance from that Government. The expenditure incurred during 1946–47 did not fetch any grant from the centre as it was considered too late for the scheme being recognized as an interim scheme. The entire expenditure incurred during 1947–48 was met from the Government of India grant. Fifty per cent of the expenditure incurred during 1948–49 was also subsidized by the Government of India. Fifty per cent of the expenditure incurred during 1949–50 will also be subsidized by that Government.

Association of Non-officials and the public in implementing the scheme.

10. The Intensive Rural Reconstruction Scheme provides a democratic basis for the development of rural areas and aims at placing the destiny of the masses in their own hands. The villagers themselves have a share in framing the proposals for their own improvement. The scheme necessitates the closest contact of the workers with the villagers. The staff connected with the scheme conduct an enquiry in the villages and survey their needs in consultation with the villagers. Firka Development committees consisting of officials and non-officials have also been constituted in each firka and centre to implement the scheme drawn up for the improvement of the villages. There is also a Provincial Firka Development Board comprising heads of departments and influential constructive workers which formulates and frames schemes of rural reconstruction.

11. A Central Publicity Committee was constituted by the Government during 1949. The Committee was charged with the task of effectively organizing propaganda in order to educate public opinion and to give publicity to the work actually done. Necessary orders were issued on the recommendations of publicity committee. The Government have also constituted a standing advisory sub-committee of the Provincial Firka Development Board to draw up detailed programme of work in the selected firkas and centres.

Assessment of rural development work by non-officials.

12. This Government have periodically deputed non-officials to inspect the work done under Firka Development Scheme and to suggest ways and means of improving the work. In 1947, Sri N. S. Varadachari, M.L.A., and Sri M. Bapineedu, M.L.A., were deputed to investigate into the then existing state of affairs in the firkas and to send reports thereon. The reports submitted by them were duly examined by Government and orders passed wherever necessary. Again during 1949, Sri G. Ramachandran, the present Secretary, All-India Village Industries Association, was deputed to visit the firkas and centres in the Province to inspect the work done therein and submit a report to Government suggesting improvements to firka development work. He was greatly impressed with the work done and the methods pursued and expressed his appreciation in no uncertain terms. According to him "Firka development work is the only constructive work of the Gandhian pattern done by the Government in this Province . . . ."

Review of work.

13. Before reviewing the work done, it will be necessary, to set out here the many difficulties encountered in working the scheme, so that the results may be assessed and judged in their correct perspective.

Although the Firka Development work was taken up towards the close of 1946, the collection of the necessary statistics and the organization of the preliminaries took some considerable time; and it was only in October 1947 that a definite scheme was drawn up by a committee of constructive workers, including Sri J. C. Kumarappa, Sri G. Ramachandran and Sri R. R. Keithan. Thus it was only from the end of 1947 that sustained and concerted efforts were made, and the present review therefore practically covers a period of just two years.

14. The Firka Development Scheme is a new and pioneering experiment in the field of rural reconstruction which has not been tried so far by any other State Government. The problem bristles with difficulties. Fresh ground had to be broken and there were no precedents or examples to follow. Secondly, during the long period of tutelage and foreign rule, the villager had lost his initiative to organize and develop himself and the society around him, and was accustomed for generations to look to the Government for every small thing which could be done easily and quickly by a little co-operative effort in the village. To reform this lamentable habit of depending on the Government for everything and to change his entire

outlook on life by awakening him to a sense of his duties and responsibilities as a citizen of a free State, was indeed no easy task. The Firka Development staff had therefore first and foremost to bend all their energies to this difficult task of removing the age-long interia and apathy of the villagers and galvanizing them into healthy and fruitful activity. To achieve this object, the Firka Development staff have to move on the closest and friendliest terms with the villagers and win their confidence. This requires, among others, great tact and inexhaustible patience. In fine, the Firka Development Officer has to be the friend, philosopher and guide of the villagers. It is only then that he can hope to bring about that psychological revolution in the outlook of the villagers, which is the first and basic requisite for the success of the whole scheme.

15. Apart from this inherent difficulty of the problem, the Government was also handicapped in finding proper personnel capable of working the scheme successfully. On account of the necessity of securing close and intense co-operation among the villagers on which the success of the scheme mainly depended and bringing about intimate and cordial co-ordination of the officers of the various departments of the Government who had lacked till now such opportunity, the Government appointed a number of officers from outside who on account of their services to the country and close association with the public in various fields of activities were considered to have a special aptitude for rural reconstruction work and the popularity and success of the scheme so far as shown that the expectations of the Government have largely been satisfied. These officers had to acquaint themselves with official procedure and routine and become thoroughly well versed with the definite comprehensive plans for the alround development of villages. Consequently the sub-committee appointed in 1947, by the Provincial Firka Development Board to draw up an overall plan of firka development, emphasised the need for giving efficient and adequate training to the Firka Development staff, namely, 34 Firka Development Officers and 175 Village Development Officers (subsequently renamed Grama Sevaks). The Government agreed with their conclusion that no abiding or substantial results could be achieved, unless the scheme was worked by a team of enthusiastic officers adequately and efficiently trained in the principles and practice of rural reconstruction. Accordingly the Government ordered the opening of two schools, one at Kallupatti for the southern districts and another at Gopannapalem for the northern districts, to train the Grama Sevaks. The training recommended by that sub-committee consists of two parts of three months each, so that each Grama Sevak receives in all training for six months within a period of two years. Almost all the present Grama Sevaks have had the benefit of the first instalment of training and the second was recently started in respect of only one batch. Each school can train at a time only a batch of 40 students. It will thus be seen that so far we have not been able to give complete training to even one Grama Sevak. The result is that the department is still being run with staff not properly trained or equipped for the efficient discharge of their duties.

16. The Firka Development Officers also have had to be similarly trained tho[illegible] on different lines. But as no Firka Development Officer could be taken away from his jurisdiction for any long period, the sub-committee suggested that they should be trained for a period of three weeks at a time, the training being repeated for four times in a year. But so far they have had only three courses of training for three weeks each. The first course was at Shantipuram in December 1948 under the immediate supervision of the then Hon'ble Minister for Firka Development Dr. S. Gurubatham. The training was then confined to a study of agriculture. The second course was at Tirupur in April 1949, when emphasis was laid on khadi production, spinning and weaving. The third course was given in August 1949 at Gandhigram, where they were trained in General rural development work. It is very unfortunate that the Firka Development Officers have not received a reasonably adequate or sustained training to shape and fit them out for this novel and difficult task of rural reconstruction which demands a new technique.

17. Nevertheless within this brief period of two years substantial results have been achieved both in the direction of improving the amenities in the selected firkas and centres and in bringing about a healthy and significant change in the mental outlook of the villagers. A detailed statement of the work done in each firka from the commencement of the scheme up to the end of December 1949 is appended (Annexure I). A consolidated progress report of the work done under the Firka Development scheme from the commencement up to 31st December 1949 is appended in Annexure II. The following account gives a more comprehensive picture of the work done from the commencement of the scheme in all the firkas under each of the important heads :—

Communications and water-supply.

18. In any scheme of rural development high priority has to be given to water-supply and communications.

The health of the people is really the foundation on which depends all their happiness and well-being. But in a large number of villages clean drinking water is not available. Therefore the very first step necessary for the improvement of rural areas is the provision of protected water-supply and this has received the highest priority in the Firka Development scheme.

Similarly for the development of the rural areas, it is equally necessary to provide communications which are very sadly lacking in most villages. Not only are there no roads connecting one village with another but there are also none connecting them with the main roads ; and unless the villages are inter-linked by good roads and are connected with the main highways and through them with the large towns, their development cannot make any notable progress.

For the above reasons, the Government have given first preference to the schemes under communications and rural water-supply and have allotted for each firka and centre a sum of Rs. 50,000 for expenditure on each of the above two items. With the help of the contributions made from these allotments, a number of useful and substantial works have been executed. They make a long list, but only a few of the outstanding items will be mentioned below.

Communications.

19. The length of the new roads formed up to the end of December 1949 is over 435 miles. This does not take into account 154 other new roads already formed and those under construction, the lengths of which are not readily available. Similarly, the total length of roads repaired or improved is over 43 miles besides a number of other roads improved or repaired, the length of which is not known. Again, cart-tracks to a length of 62 miles have been newly formed besides a number of others, the length of which is not known. Fuller details of the works executed under this head are given below :—

(1) Length of roads formed	435 miles, 4 furlongs.
(2) Number of roads formed in addition to item (1) above for which linear measurements are not given.	154.
(3) Length of roads improved	43 miles, 6 furlongs.
(4) Number of roads improved in addition to item (3) for whch linear measurements are not given.	65.
(5) Length of cart-tracks formed	62 miles.
(6) Number of cart-tracks formed in addition to item (5) above.	41.
(7) Length of cart-tracks repaired	14 miles.

(8) Number of cart-tracks repaired in addition to item (7) above.	25.
(9) Number or length of village rasthas formed ..	52.
(10) Number or length of village rasthas repaired.	59 numbers and 3 miles.
(11) Number or length of foot-paths formed and in formation.	40.
(12) Number or length of foot-paths repaired and under repair.	28 numbers and 3 miles 6 furlongs.
(13) Number of culverts constructed	180.
(14) Number of culverts repaired and under repair.	13.
(15) Number of road dams constructed and under construction.	88.
(16) Number of dams across channels constructed.	24.
(17) Number of foot bridges constructed and under construction.	39.

20. These road works serve a population of over 729,000 living in 565 villages. As many as 310 villages which had no access to the main roads are now linked up with them. These works have been carried out far more expeditiously than would have been the case, if they were entrusted to the Government departments like the Public Works. In many of these cases as a result of the persuasion by the Firka Development staff and their organizing capacity lands worth some thousands of rupees required for the formation of the roads were readily given away free of cost. If in the usual way the machinery of the Land Acquisition Act had to be applied for taking possession of these lands, it would have taken years to complete these road works. Moreover, the value of the work done in most of these cases is several times more than the expenditure incurred from out of the Government funds. Wherever the Government made a small grant, it acted effectively as a kind of tilting lever in stimulating a large measure of local contribution in money and labour. For assessing the value of the co-operation forthcoming in the villages statistics were compiled. They show that in 31 firkas and centres (for which alone figures could be readily collected) while the total cost involved in the formation of the roads was nearly Rs. 8,15,000 the voluntary contribution from the villages was of a value of Rs. 2,37,600. Again, in the quarter ending March 1950 it was proposed to complete a number of other road works to the total value of about Rs. 7 lakhs, out of which the contribution expected was of the order of about Rs. 2 lakhs.

Water-supply.

21. As pointed out above, an allotment of Rs. 50,000 has been set apart for each selected firka and centre for expenditure on Rural Water-supply schemes. There has been a fairly good progress in the execution of Rural Water-supply works. Up to the end of December 1949, 420 new wells were sunk, whilst 252 more were under construction. 309 old wells were repaired. 44 water tanks and 49 drinking water ponds were also repaired. What an amazing response there was from the villagers in the matter of well-digging can be assessed from the fact that out of an estimated cost of Rs. 9,16,800, the value of contributions received from the villagers was about Rs. 1,96,000. Even more striking is the promised contribution of Rs. 1,41,323 for 243 more wells which were proposed to be constructed by the end of March 1950 at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,16,160.

Other urgent and minor items of work.

22. Apart from village communications and rural water-supply, there are a number of other miscellaneous items of work such as cutting down hedges, filling pits, widening or improving small foot-paths or cart-tracks, putting masonry basements, etc., which demand immediate attention, if we are to improve the health of our people and afford other amenities. For these purposes, an annual lump sum grant of Rs. 10,000 has been placed at the disposal of each Collector in respect of each selected

firka or centre. He has the discretion to spend the amount on such items as he considers useful. Till the end of December 1949, an expenditure of nearly Rs. 7,00,000 was incurred on the execution of such minor and urgent items of work. Here also the villagers have evinced an enormous interest and have contributed nearly Rs. 3 lakhs out of the total estimated expenditure of about Rs. 7 lakhs. These figures speak for themselves, and testify to the popularity of the measures undertaken.

Education.

23. Education is the forerunner of all progress. No nation that claims to be civilized can afford to neglect the education of the masses, and yet unfortunately in the educational schemes of the past the villages in the State had been almost neglected. So the Firka Development staff have been devoting considerable attention to the provision of educational facilities in the rural areas. Through their enthusiasm and organizing ability remarkable progress has already been achieved in this direction. Up to the end of 1949, 200 elementary schools, 294 night schools, 223 adult schools, 134 reading rooms, 25 central libraries, 538 branch libraries and other libraries and 16 Basic Education centres have been started. Forty-seven elementary schools were converted into Basic Education centres; 63 reading rooms and libraries were improved. Ninety-two buildings for schools were constructed. Forty-four buildings for libraries and 52 reading rooms were constructed. Forty-four radio sets were installed and 18 houses for installing these sets were constructed. As rightly observed by Sri G. Ramachandran, "Firka Development work has given an extraordinary impetus to village education. In many villages new schools have sprung up, the school buildings being pakka and costing three to four times the grant given from the department."

24. Our education had hitherto been mainly directed to the mere development of the intellect to the exclusion of the other faculties; and for a long time its main objective under a foreign Government, was to produce the clerks and public servants required for the administration of the country. That type of education which makes men self-reliant and self-supporting was not at all contemplated. The Mahatma's scheme of Basic Education for the masses is one of the manifold blessings he has conferred on the present and succeeding generations. The Firka Development scheme has therefore rightly laid emphasis on the extension of the basic education in the areas selected. The Government have already issued orders that as many of the existing schools as possible in the selected firkas should be converted into basic schools and that first preference should be given to the areas selected for intensive rural reconstruction work in the matter of opening Basic Education Training schools. Accordingly, 16 Basic Education Training schools have been started in the selected firkas. In the matter of selection of candidates for admission into these Basic Training schools, preference is being given to candidates coming from the selected areas.

25. The ignorance of even the three R's by millions of grown-up men and women in our land is one of the unfortunate legacies of the past and forms one of the darkest spots in our social fabric. The ordinary schools for children and adolescents cannot be the proper place for the education of elderly men and women who have to toil hard the whole day for their daily bread. The provision of other suitable classes for them at convenient centres during hours when they are free from their regular work, is therefore an absolute necessity. The Government have accordingly framed a scheme for the spread of Adult Education with the two-fold object of liquidating the illiteracy of adults and improving their knowledge through education centres, libraries, cinemas, etc. In the implementation of this scheme, priority is being shown to the firkas and centres selected for intensive rural reconstruction work.

Agriculture.

26. As the basic aim of the whole scheme is to make the selected firkas and centres self-sufficient in food, the intention of Government is to see that agricultural production is so regulated in these areas as to make the localities try to produce

all their food requirements and other raw materials needed by them. A time-limit of five years has been given to every firka or centre to achieve self-sufficiency. A specific programme of agricultural development for each selected firka and centre has been drawn up. Its main aims are—

(1) to increase the productivity of the lands by such means as supply of better seeds and manure, protection of crops against pests and diseases, use of better implements and better livestock ; and

(2) to utilize as much waste land as possible and to bring it under cultivation.

Agricultural implements have been ordered to be supplied at half the cost price, subject to certain limitations. Emphasis is also laid on the preparation of compost manure and the popularisation of such preparation. Arrangements have been made to give lectures on this subject to Grama Sevaks undergoing training in the Vidyalayams at Kallupatti and Gopannapalem. A note was also got prepared by the Director of Agriculture on 'Hints on the Preparation of Artificial Farm-yard Manure.' This was translated into all the regional languages and the pamphlets were widely distributed in the firka areas in order to popularise and spread the art of manufacturing compost manure.

The Government have also ordered the building up of model agricultural villages in each firka in order to accelerate the pace of adoption of improved agricultural implements, and better seeds and manure. The details of the actual work done are as noted below :—

		ACS.
1	Number of acres of waste lands brought under cultivation	3,070
2	Model agricultural farms started	30
3	Agricultural demonstration plots	389
4	Number of manure pits dug	7,460
5	Number of compost pits dug	1,634

It has to be admitted, however, that the practical results achieved so far in the direction of making villages self-sufficient in food, have not been either very appreciable or encouraging. Further intensive measures will have to be taken during the current year in co-operation with the Agricultural department who, in the main, are responsible for the progress and development in this regard.

Irrigation.

27. As the development of agriculture is largely dependent on the efficiency of the irrigational sources available, the Government have sanctioned in July 1948, the investigation of seven major schemes to improve irrigational facilities in the selected firkas. One scheme (restoration of supply channel to Red Hills tank) which is intended to improve the supply to the tanks that are fed by the channel in the Tiruvallur firka, has since been completed and the remaining schemes are under investigation. The Commissioner of Food Production has also been requested to arrange for the immediate execution of repairs and improvements to tanks in the zamindari areas and minor irrigation tanks in the ryotwari areas lying within the selected firkas and centres. The Chief Engineer (Public Works Department) has also been requested to give a high priority for evolving a scheme for the improvement of irrigation tanks in the selected firkas and centres.

In the Polavaram firka of West Godavari district, the Kothur tank was repaired by spending a small amount of Rs. 500 and an ayacut of 200 acres which used to be sub-merged was restored for cultivation. In the same firka to prevent the inundation from Govada channel, a hill stream which, when in floods, was causing great damage to the health and property of the villagers of Pathapattisam, the villagers under the persuasion and guidance of the Firka Development staff raised the bund

by co-operative effort at a cost of Rs. 1,500 out of which the Government contributed only Rs. 470. The other minor works executed through the efforts of the Firka Development staff are these—

(1) Ponds constructed	2
(2) Dams constructed	11
(3) Minor Irrigation tanks, lakes, ponds, etc., repaired ..	62
(4) Supply channels excavated	10
(5) Channels repaired	23
(6) Sluices repaired	29

Livestock Improvement.

28. Agriculture in this country, it is hardly necessary to say, is even more dependent on cattle wealth than even on irrigation, " since the whole of our village economy is more or less bullock and cow centered." The firka Development staff, therefore, have been making earnest endeavours to the development of cattle of good working capacity and good milk strain through proper breeding. With a view to increase the number of breeding bulls every year, a scheme for the village livestock improvement has been formulated and has been ordered to be introduced in four selected firkas. The scheme will be worked out on co-operative lines in the Ongole and Palladam firkas of Guntur and Coimbatore districts respectively and will be managed by the Department of Animal Husbandry in the Alur and Saliamangalam firkas.

Electricity.

29. The electrification of the selected areas is another important part of the comprehensive plan for the development of rural economy. High priority is being given for the execution of the firka electrification schemes. No doubt, shortage of line materials and transformers continue to be the bottle-neck. Yet, with the available materials, work on these schemes is being pushed through and supply given as expeditiously as possible. In certain cases the minimum load required for making the electrification scheme remunerative is not obtainable and there is a consequent deficit in the revenues according to departmental standards which require a return of 10 per cent. In such cases the Government have undertaken to subsidise these deficits from the fund for village reconstruction and Harijan uplift. Such unremunerative electrification schemes have so far been sanctioned in respect of some villages in Tirumangalam, Veerapandi, Kalasapakkam, Kadambuliyur, Nagari, Malli and Dendulur firkas.

Up to the end of 1949, 25 villages in the selected firkas, viz., 6 in Palladam, 7 in Avanashi, 2 in Tiruvallur, 2 in Kundah, 4 in Tirumangalam and 4 in Cheranmahadevi have had the benefit of electricity. Other electrification schemes costing over Rs. 39 lakhs have been sanctioned under the Firka Development scheme for supplying power for agricultural, industrial, domestic, etc., purposes.

It has also been arranged to supply electric motor pump-sets and accessories on a priority basis to the ryots in the selected areas by ear-marking a proportion of the equipment for supply to these areas.

Public Health.

30. For ensuring the health of people which is indeed the foundation of all their happiness and well-being, the basic need is the provision of protected water-supply. The measures taken in this regard and the results achieved have been set out in an earlier paragraph. But these by themselves cannot go far, unless they are supplemented by the provision of medical facilities. The Firka Development staff have, therefore, been striving their utmost to secure the co-operation of the public in opening dispensaries, hospitals, maternity and child welfare centres, etc. Through their efforts fifty such institutions have already been started or subsidised.

31. Apart from this, the Government have realised from the beginning that it is necessary for them to provide fully equipped medical and public health centres in everyone of these firkas. The original intention was to have at least four such centres in each firka. In view of the financial stringency, this ambitious scheme had to be given up and orders were issued to have one such unit in each firka. Even this could not be carried out in full owing to financial difficulties and it has been finally decided to develop only ten such centres in all. Each primary centre will consist of—

Medical staff	One Civil Assistant Surgeon. One compounder. One midwife. One nursing orderly. One cook-cum-waterman. One toti.
Public Health staff	One Health Inspector. Two midwives. One peon for the Health Inspector. Two ayahs. Two maistris. Twenty sweepers. Twenty scavengers.

Leprosy Relief.

32. The question of tackling rural leprosy with a view to control and prevent the spreading of the disease has also been taken up. The Government have appointed Sri T. N. Jagadisan, Honorary Secretary, Hind Kushtanivaran Sangh, as the Honorary Leprosy Prevention and Relief Organizer for the Firka Development department. Sri Jagadisan has drawn up a comprehensive and detailed plan for the organization of leprosy relief in the Gara, Kalasapakkam and Kumbla firkas. Sri Jagadisan's proposals contemplate the appointment of Kushtanivaran Sevaks, injectors and nursing orderlies who will be given suitable training before they are appointed. According to this scheme the medical officers in charge of the primary centres will be made responsible for the over-all general supervision of the curative and preventive work. The question of opening primary centres in these areas where the leprosy schemes will be tried is under consideration.

Two leprosy segregation centres have already been opened in the Kadambuliyur firka of South Arcot district.

Sanitation.

33. "Cleanliness is next to godliness" and therefore it is that Mahatma Gandhi had insisted that sanitation should be the first step in village work. Our villages are generally very insanitary. Hence, in the Firka Development scheme a definite programme of work has been drawn up for the systematic improvement of sanitation and is being implemented in firka villages. This programme aims at not merely the mechanical cleaning up of the villages but also the inculcation and development of a sanitary consciousness among the villagers. Shortly stated, a sanitation squad is formed in each village under the guidance of the grama sevak. They help in disseminating useful hints or information, supplying cheap disinfectants, providing sanitary latrines, urinals, dustbins, soak-pits and drainage and in conducting propaganda. As a result of this, 86 latrines of the Wardha type and 149 latrines of other types were constructed up to the end of December 1949, whilst 150 more were under construction. Twenty-seven latrines were repaired. Seventy-five septic tanks and 267 dustbins were constructed. Two thousand six hundred and sixty-six insanitary pits were filled up, whilst 3,763 manure heaps were removed to places outside the dwelling-houses. One thousand-six hundred and twenty-two soak pits were dug and 200 cess pools constructed. Fifty-three public bath-rooms were brought into existence. Another notable achievement is the construction of street drains to a length of 14 miles and 4 furlongs.

The value and usefulness of the work done in this regard is described by Sri G. Ramachandran as follows :—

"Drainage construction in villages has in fact been given up as a hopeless business altogether by constructive workers. It was, therefore, again, a surprise and a pleasure to me to find in three or four villages. I visited in the Tirumangalam firka-complete village drainage built and that with no cost at all to Government. The only assistance given by the Firka Development department was the supply of cement at controlled price and the lending of the services of a Public Works department supervisor to give technical advice. Each house-holder paid for length of drainage touching his house. That villagers co-operated in such work costing some rupees four to five thousand without quarrelling in the middle of the work and giving it up, was undoubtedly an achievement in co-operative effort."

Co-operation.

34. Co-operation is the pivot on which depends the progress of any organization in this age. That is why Mahatma Gandhi has laid down in the passage quoted at the commencement, that as far as possible every activity should be conducted on the co-operative basis. Accordingly, co-operative societies in the selected firkas have been intensified and a great fillip has been given to the movement. A determined effort has been made to form co-operative societies in all the villages in the selected areas with the result that at the end of 1949 out of a total about 1,000 villages there remained only 85 villages not covered by co-operative societies.

The Government have also ordered the opening of multi-purpose co-operative societies in three selected firkas in the State. The intension is that after watching the success of the scheme, it should be gradually extended to other areas.

Panchayats.

35. The panchayat system is one of the ancient institutions of this land. Long before Democracy was conceived in the west, in India, the affairs of each village were administered by a council of elders who, though not elected by ballot, were yet selected by the common consent of the villagers for their wisdom and integrity. This simple, yet excellent, system survived the onslaught of invasions by foreigners and was working with some of its pristine vigour even at the beginning of the British rule. Owing to various causes which it is unnecessary to enumerate here, this admirable system was unfortunately almost strangled out of existence in recent times. Here again, the Mahatma with his unerring instinct for all that is best and most beneficial for the masses of this country, has pleaded for the resuscitation of the panchayat system and its development for even and wider more diverse uses than had been contemplated in our ancient system. The Firka Development scheme therefore aims at the establishment of efficient panchayats in all the villages for the successful management of their affairs without the assistance of an extraneous authority. To achieve this object the Government ordered that panchayat should be constituted in each village of the selected firkas and centres. Out of a total number of 1,010 villages in these firkas and centres, panchayats have already been constituted for 872 villages. For 68 villagers in the Agency areas no panchayats could be formed as they were out of the purview of the Madras Local Boards Act. There remained therefore at the end of 1949 only 70 villages for which panchayats had yet to be constituted. When the Panchayats Act comes into force, even a greater impetus will be given to the development of the panchayats, which will assume wider powers and will play a larger part in rural development.

In addition to the panchayats, grama seva sanghams have been formed by the Firka Development staff in each of the main villages of the slected firkas and centres. Their aim is to mobilize non-official support for working the Firka Development scheme and developing the rural areas.

Conclusion.

36. The above account of the work done under the several heads shows that the scheme has yielded good results. Enthusiasm has been created and people have responded with contributions in kind and cash in a generous measure for the construction of wells, roads and buildings for schools, libraries, reading rooms, dispensaries, child and maternity-welfare centres, etc. In order to foster the spirit of self-help, works are generally taken up and carried out only in those places where the villagers come forward with their contribution either in cash or in the form of materials or labour; and one cardinal and wholesome principle uniformly followed is that the execution of these works is entrusted to the very villagers who are to be benefited by the scheme and not to an outside profit-earning agency. This has helped remarkably in stimulating their initiative and rousing their enthusiasm, besides winning their confidence that here for the first time the people are actively associated with the governmental works.

The value of the work done in most of these cases as stated already is far m[illegible] than the money spent from out of the firka development fund. For example in the case of the drains constructed in Tirumangalam firka to a total length of 4,[illegible] in feet estimated to cost Rs. 4,600, the Government contribution was only Rs. 3[illegible] a which is less than one-twelfth of the total cost. In the same firka while the cost [illegible] constructing first aid centres, nature cure centres and the maternity centre was estimated at about Rs. 2,750 only Rs. 600 was contributed from out of the firka development fund. Again, in 31 villages of this firka, while the total value of the construction of community centres, school buildings, reading rooms, hospitals, retaining walls to drains, etc., was of the order of Rs. 39,000, only a small contribution of Rs. 2,800 or less than a tenth came out of the Firka Development fund. It is unnecessary to multiply instances. The various works executed under the Firka Development schemes have cost Government much less than what they would have done, if they had been carried out departmentally, the percentage of voluntary contribution to that of the total cost coming to more than 50 per cent in quite a number of cases. This only indicates that the circumstances are now very favourable for tapping the local resources and utilizing them for the development of rural areas. The Government have, therefore, decided to extend the intensive Rural Reconstruction scheme to fifty additional firkas in the State. These new firkas are in almost all cases adjacent to the present ones, so that each of the present Firka Development Officers will have three firkas under him instead of one. The total number of Firka Development Officers will thus remain the same, but the number of firkas will be nearly trebled. Only some new grama sevaks will be appointed to the additional firkas and the jurisdictions of all grama sevaks rearranged.

37. It is barely three years since the department came into existence. The scheme is a novel and difficult experiment not hitherto attempted by any Government department. New ground had to be broken, new institutions had to be created, a new tenchnique had to be evolved and above all, a new outlook on life had to be inculcated among the villagers. We had to start with the initial handicap of an untrained staff and the process of their training is still going on. Yet the results achieved are by no means negligible or discouraging. When the staff are completely trained, it is hoped that, with the experience gained during the past two years, the pace of progress towards the much cherished goal of self-sufficiency will be greatly accelerated. With patience, good-will and co-operation of all concerned, the scheme bids fair to prove an unqualified success with solid and substantial achievements to its credit; and the Grama Swaraj envisaged by Mahatma Gandhi will ere long be a reality.

ANNEXURE I.

Firkawar details of work done from the commencement of the scheme up to the end of December 1949.

ANANTAPUR DISTRICT.

Hindupur Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Twenty new wells were sunk and 10 old wells were repaired. One well was under repair. Nineteen water tubs for cattle were constructed near the drinking wells.

[illegible]munications.—Fifteen miles and 100 yards of roads were laid and 15 miles of roads were [illegible]ed. Two miles of cart-tracks were formed. Twenty village rasthas were formed and ma[illegible] were [illegible]e repaired. Six foot-paths of a few furlongs in length were formed or repaired. One causeway commenced in 1948 was completed and five culverts were constructed. One culvert was repaired. One foot-bridge and two road dams were constructed.

Education.—Five elementary schools, nine night and nine adult schools, six reading rooms, one central library and 22 branch libraries were started. Two elementary schools were converted into basic schools. Five reading rooms and libraries were improved. Five school buildings were under construction and two buildings for libraries were constructed. One radio set was installed.

Public health.—One rural dispensary was started by the district board and five private dispensaries were subsidized from out of the Firka Development Funds. Thirteen Wardha type latrines were constructed and 10 latrines were repaired. Ninety-three dust-bins were constructed. Thirty-five insanitary pits were filled up and about 200 manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. About 70 soak pits were dug. Drainage to a length of 2,800 feet were constructed. Two public bath-rooms were constructed and two were under construction.

Agriculture.—About five acres of wet lands and 200 acres of dry lands were newly brought under cultivation. One model agricultural farm and one demonstration plot were started. One hundred and fifty manure or compost pits were dug.

Irrigation.—Some minor repairs were done to ten Public Works Department and minor irrigation tanks in the firka. Ten sluices were repaired. The Gollapuram tank was repaired by the villagers. Supply channels were excavated and the silt was removed by the villagers in some places. The following works were nearing completion :—

(1) Gholapuram tank. (2) Cholasamudram tank. (3) Lepakshi large tank. (4) Hindupur large tank. (5) Hindupur large tank and supply channel.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-three grama seva sanghams were formed.

Animal-husbandry and poultry.—Six breeding bulls were serving in the firka. One poultry [illegible]t was formed.

[illegible]iscellaneous.—One playground was formed. Seventy-five charkas were introduced. Free [illegible]ly of books and slates to Harijan pupils was arranged. Magic lantern and slides were pur[illegible]d and shows conducted. Competitions were held between grama seva sanghams and [illegible]an troops and prizes awarded. Prizes were also awarded for spinning demonstrations [illegible] vegetable growing.

Co-operation.—Of the 22 villages in this firka, 21 villages were covered by co-operative societies. There were 18 rural credit societies, three stores societies, one students' stationery stores, one land mortgage bank, one marketing society, four milk supply societies, one irrigation society, one urban bank, two employees' societies, one building society, one co-operative motor transport society and one multi-purpose society functioning in this firka. Multi-purpose by-laws were introduced in two credit societies and special by-laws for undertaking social and recreational activities in the villages were introduced in the credit societies in certain other villages. A women's cottage industries co-operative society was organized in November 1949. Three house-site societies were organized for the benefit of Harijans and the proposals were under consideration.

NORTH ARCOT DISTRICT.

Kalasapakkam Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Thirteen new wells were sunk and 22 new wells were under construction. Six old wells were repaired and four old wells were under repair.

Communications.—Seventeen miles and 2 furlongs of roads were formed in addition to four other roads for which linear measurements are not readily available. Nine roads were under construction. One mile and six furlongs of roads were improved in addition to two other roads for which linear measurements were not given. Six village rasthas were formed. Sixteen culverts were constructed and 10 were under construction. One road dam was also constructed.

Education.—Five elementary schools, 29 night schools and 29 adult schools were opened. Nine reading rooms were started. Six reading rooms were improved. One central library and 28 branch and other libraries were opened. Five school buildings were constructed and three were under construction. Two buildings for libraries and two for reading rooms were constructed or were under construction. Five radio sets were installed and one radio house was constructed.

Public health.—One Ayurvedic dispensary and one maternity and child-welfare centre were opened. Twenty-two Wardha latrines were under construction. Seven insanitary pits was filled up. Thirty manure heaps were removed to places outside the dwelling localities. Tw soak pits were dug. Eighty-six cesspools were constructed. Drainage to a length of one fu was also constructed.

Agriculture.—Forty-five acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. Tw agricultural farms were started. Four hundred and fifty-seven manure pits and 32 pits were dug.

Animal husbandry.—One poultry unit was started. One stud-bull was stationed.

Irrigation.—Repairs to supply channel from the Cheyyar river were under execution Pillur village. The Public Works Department tank at Kalasapakkam was deepened.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-two grama seva sanghams were formed.

Electricity.—An electrification scheme estimated to cost Rs. 1,48,620 which will cover si villages was sanctioned and the work is in progress.

Co-operation.—Out of 29 villages in this firka 24 villages had been brought under the co-operative fold. Two societies were organized and were pending registration. There were 14 rural credit societies functioning in this firka. Four Harijan house-site societies were formed at Kalasapakkam, Poondi, Pillur and Sholavaram. A mat weavers' co-operative society was organized at Pathiawadi during the year and the Collector of North Arcot sanctioned a sum of Rs. 250 out of his discretionary grants to this society for the purchase of korai and for the erection of a shed to work the loom. A women's cottage industries society was organized at Kalasapakkam. A cattle-breeding society was also organized at Kalasapakkam and Government sanctioned necessary subsidies for it to purchase and maintain five breeding bulls.

Panchayat board.—Half grant was sanctioned to the Padagam Panchayat Board and Kuppalur Panchayat Board to form a road from sixth mile of Polur-Pilasur road to Mansurabad at an estimated cost of Rs. 14,000 and constructing a road dam at 0/8 mile of Kuppalur branch road at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,369 respectively. A grant of Rs. 1,144–10–0 was also paid to Kambattu Panchayat Board to form a road from mile 5/1 of Moyuru-Vanapuram road to Kambattu village.

Miscellaneous.—Two women welfare centres were opened. Arrangements were made to start a "Thondimetal" industry at Kuppalur. Steps are being taken to start one workshop in wood-work and blacksmithy at Thenpallipatti.

South Arcot District.

Kadambuliyur Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Nine new wells were sunk. Thirty five wells were under construc Two old wells and three drinking water ponds were repaired and eight were under repair.

Communications.—Eight miles of roads were laid in addition to three other roads for w linear measurements are not readily available and 12 roads were under construction. tracks to a length of one mile were formed in addition to three other cart-tracks for which l measurements were not given. Four culverts were constructed and four were under construct

Education.—Eight elementary schools and three night schools were started. One centra library and 45 branch and other libraries were opened. One basic education school was also started. Eight school buildings were constructed and two more were under construction. Two radio sets were installed and a radio house was constructed.

Public health.—Two leprosy segregation centres, one maternity and child-welfare centre and one rural dispensary were opened. Four latrines of Wardha type and 16 of other types were constructed. Four latrines were repaired. One septic tank and one dust bin were also constructed. Twelve insanitary pits were filled up. Two hundred and nineteen manure heaps were removed to places outside the dwelling localities. Four soak pits were dug.

Grama seva sanghams.—Thirty-five grama seva sanghams were formed.

Electricity.—Three electrification schemes costing Rs. 6,45,080 were sanctioned and taken up for execution. The schemes will cover 12 villages and 200 wells will be connected.

Animal husbandry and poultry.—Two breeding bulls were stationed in the firka. Two poultry farms were organized.

igation.—Repairs were executed or were being executed to the following sources at cost against them :—

Name of source.	Cost of work.
	RS.
1 Tiruvarur tank	1,063
2 Reddy channel	1,827
3 Natham tank	7,273
4 Elandampathi tank	5,400
5 Samakkottai spring pond and channel	883
6 Anathur tank	1,908
7 Manavandapurthu Mandakulam supply channel	2,405

An estimate for protecting the low-lying lands in Kilirippu village from floods was prepared. Proposals for the formation of Palliarkuppam, Andikuppam, Kilambattu and Melampattu reservoirs were under consideration.

Co-operation.—Of the 35 villages in this firka, 33 villages were served by co-operative societies. There were 22 rural credit societies, four stores societies and one palmyra jaggery manufacturing co-operative society functioning in this firka. A special Senior Inspector of Co-operative Societies was sanctioned for work in this firka. Nine societies undertook social and recreational activities in their jurisdiction. The Collector of South Arcot sanctioned a sum of Rs. 325 to the Muthandikuppam Co-operative Society from his discretionary grant towards 50 per cent of the cost of a battery radio set proposed to be purchased and installed by the society. A cashewnut marketing society was organized at Kadambuliyur and it started work on 20th November 1949.

Panchayat board.—Sanction was accorded for the Kadambuliyur Panchayat Board to incur half the cost of radio set and to maintain it out of its funds.

Chinnasalem Centre.

Rural water-supply.—Fifteen new wells were sunk and seven were under construction. Eighteen old wells were repaired and four were under repair.

Communications.—Eleven miles and 7 furlongs of roads were formed. Thirteen roads were under construction. Cart-tracks to a length of a mile and a half were formed.

Education.—Nine elementary schools, eight night schools and eight adult schools were opened. Three reading rooms were started. Twelve school buildings were constructed and three were under construction. Buildings for three reading rooms were constructed. One radio set was installed.

Public health.—Two septic tanks were constructed. One hundred and fifty insanitary pits were filled up. Two thousand and sixty manure heaps were removed to places outside the dwelling localities. Twenty five soak pits were dug. Drainage to a length of 1,750 feet was also constructed. Two public bath rooms were constructed. Five first-aid centres were formed.

Agriculture.—Several manure pits and compost pits were also dug.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-one grama seva sanghams were formed.

Irrigation.—Works relating to (*a*) silt clearance in Emapier tank supply channel and (*b*) extension of the Chinnasalem anicut were completed at a cost of Rs. 2,600 and Rs, 3,950 respectively. Estimates were under preparation in respect of—

(i) Repairs to Kallakurichi tank.
(ii) Clearing silt in Kallakurichi tank supply channel.
(iii) Repairs to Chinnasalem tank.

The following schemes were under investigation :—

(i) Restoration of Arasalur eri in Koogalyur.
(ii) Restoration of an anicut across Vellar near Pakkambadi.
(iii) Construction of an anicut and excavation of a supply channel to Madathi for Nainarpalayam and other villages.

Co-operation.—All the villages but one in this centre were covered by co-operative societies. By-laws for undertaking multi-purpose activities were adopted in seven societies.

BELLARY DISTRICT.

Alur Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Four new wells were sunk and three new wells were under construction. Sixteen old wells were repaired or improved.

Communications.—Five miles and 2 furlongs of roads were formed; six furlongs of roads were improved. Cart-tracks to a length of 1 mile and 4 furlongs were formed in addition to six other cart-tracks for which linear measurements are not readily known. Two village rasthas were under repair. Two culverts were constructed.

Education.—Two elementary schools and four night schools were started. Four reading rooms were opened. Two elementary schools were converted into basic schools; two reading rooms were constructed and two were under construction.

Public health.—One latrine and five dust-bins were constructed. One private dispensary was opened. Thirty-eight insanitary pits were filled up. One hundred and fifty manure heaps were removed to outside the dwelling places. Six soak pits were dug. Six cesspools and four public bath-rooms were under construction.

Agriculture.—Two hundred and sixty-six manure pits and 37 compost pits were dug.

Animal husbandry.—Four stud bulls and three Murrah buffaloes were stationed. One po[illegible] unit was formed.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twelve grama seva sanghams were formed.

Co-operation.—All the villages in this firka were served by co-operative societies. There were 14 rural credit societies, four store societies, one weavers' society and one cottage industries society working in this firka. Five dormant societies were revived during 1949. Two house construction societies were organized at Alur and Muddanageri for the benefit of Harijans.

Panchayat board.—The Panchayat Boards, Gulyam and Nittaravati, were permitted to incur half the cost of radio sets and to maintain them out of their funds.

Chingleput District.

Tiruvallur Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Seven new wells were sunk and 15 new wells were under construction. Four old wells and 14 water tanks and seven drinking water ponds were repaired.

Communications.—Seven miles and three furlongs of roads were laid in addition to nine other roads for which linear measurements were not given. Two roads were under construction. One mile of road was improved. One mile and 4 furlongs of cart-tracks were formed and cart-tracks to a length of 2 miles and 3 furlongs were repaired. One mile and 6 furlongs of village rasthas were formed. Nine culverts were constructed. Seven road dams were constructed or were under construction.

Education.—Five elementary schools, 16 night schools and 12 adult schools were opened. Fourteen reading rooms were started. One central library and 20 branch libraries were opened. One Basic Education School was started. Three school buildings were constructed and two were under construction. Six buildings for libraries and 11 for reading rooms were constructed or were under construction.

Public health.—Four bore-hole latrines were constructed and four other latrines were under construction. Thirty-five sanitation committees and grama seva sanghams were formed. Three hundred and sixty-seven insanitary pits were filled up and 198 manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Sixty-four soak pits were dug. Ten bath-rooms were under construction.

Agriculture.—Ninety-seven acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. Two model agricultural farms and 12 agricultural demonstration plots were started. One hundred and ninety-eight manure pits and 187 compost pits were dug.

Irrigation.—Six supply channels were repaired, excavated or silt cleared. The upper Red Hills supply channel was repaired up to Ikkadu lake. Silt was cleared in Kattangal and is being cleared in Vadathur Kasam. Special repairs were carried out to Thozhur tank and Sittatur tank. Salai supply channel was repaired. Kalambakkam Kasam was excavated. Work relating to special repairs to Ayulur and Thamalem tanks was nearing completion. Repair work to Pulur tank was done.

Miscellaneous.—Hundred charkas were distributed free of cost.

Co-operation.—Of the 50 villages in this firka, 49 villages were served by co-operative societies. There were 22 credit societies, one stores society, one weavers' society, one urban bank, one agricultural improvement co-operative society, seven Scheduled Caste societies and two jaggery societies functioning in this firka at the end of December 1949. Multi-purpose activities were adopted by five societies in this firka. A Harijan house-site society was organized at Karikalavakkam for the benefit of 30 Harijan families.

Electricity.—Supply of electricity for agricultural purposes was extended to Ikkadu and Odikkadu villages in this firka.

Panchayat board.—The Panchayat Board, Tannirkulam, was permitted to incur half the cost of radio set and to maintain it out of its funds.

Chittoor District.

Nagari Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Of the 58 new wells sanctioned, 54 new wells were constructed. Four old wells were repaired or improved.

Communications.—Ten miles and 2 furlongs of roads were formed; two roads were under construction; four furlongs of cart-tracks and 4 furlongs of village rasthas were formed. Twenty-four culverts were constructed whilst one more was under construction. Ten road dams were constructed or were under construction.

Education.—Fourteen elementary schools, five night schools, one adult school and seven reading rooms were opened ; another reading room was improved ; twelve reading rooms were constructed or were under construction. One central library and 30 branch libraries were started. Proposals were afoot for installing three radio sets.

Public health.—Two dispensaries were opened. Four Wardha type latrines were constructed. Thirty septic tanks were constructed or were under construction. Eight dust-bins were also constructed. Sixty-five insanitary pits were filled up and 276 manure heaps were removed to places outside the dwelling localities. Ten cess-pools and drainage to a length of one furlong were constructed. Ten first-aid centres were formed.

Agriculture.—Eight model agricultural farms and eight agricultural demonstration plots were started. One hundred and sixty-three manure pits and three compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—Ten co-operative societies with multi-purpose objectives and two credit co-operative societies were formed. All the 68 villages in this firka were covered by co-operative societies. There were 21 rural credit societies, two stores societies, one cottage industries society, one marketing society, six weavers' societies, one milk supply society, one house-site society and one thrift co-operative society working in this firka. Three dormant societies were revived. All the credit societies have amended their by-laws to undertake multi-purpose activities.

Miscellaneous.—A sum of Rs. 725 was given as subsidy for purchase of charkas. Subsidies totalling over Rs. 2,500 were also given for purchasing vegetable seeds, improving the Harijan hostels, starting model agriculture farms, developing palmyra industry, etc.

Electricity.—One scheme estimated to cost Rs. 1,50,600 has been sanctioned and taken up. The scheme will cover five villages and seventy wells will be connected. The work is in progress.

Irrigation.—Estimates have been prepared for the formation of a tank at Mudipalli and the restoration of the Sutranada channel.

Panchayat board.—The Panchayat Board, Aruru, was permitted to incur half the cost of radio set and to maintain it from out of its funds.

COIMBATORE DISTRICT.

Palladam Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Twenty-four new wells were under construction. Eight old wells were repaired.

Communications.—Thirty miles and six furlongs of roads were laid. Four roads were under construction. Eleven miles and four furlongs of roads were improved. One road was under repair. Nine road dams were constructed.

Education.—Seven elementary schools, twelve night schools and thirteen adult schools were started. Five school buildings were constructed and one was under construction.

Public health.—Eighty insanitary pits were filled up. Fifty-nine manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Fifty-three soak pits were dug.

Agriculture.—Fifteen acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. Three model agricultural farms were started, as also 27 agricultural demonstration plots. Thirty-six manure pits and fifteen compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—All the villages in this firka excepting one were covered by co-operative societies. A building society was registered at Palladam. Ten societies in the firka have introduced multi-purpose activities and seven societies proposed amendment to the by-laws for undertaking social and recreational activities.

Animal husbandry.—Nine breeding bulls had been supplied in this firka.

Electricity.—Two-hundred and three wells were supplied with electric power. Ten schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 4,70,360 have been sanctioned for this firka of which five have been completed and the rest are in progress. Supply of electricity for agricultural purposes was extended to the following villages in this firka :—

(1) Anupapatty, (2) Ganapathipalayam, (3) Samalapuram, (4) Kodangipalayam, (5) Vadugapalayam and (6) Chittambalam.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-three grama seva sanghams were formed.

Vellakoil Centre.

Rural water-supply.—Fourteen new wells were sunk and twenty-eight were under construction. Three old wells were repaired and two were under repair.

Communications.—Thirty-five miles and six furlongs of roads were laid. Five roads were under construction. Twenty-eight miles and three furlongs of cart-tracks were laid and in addition four more cart-tracks were formed. Village rasthas to a length of one furlong were repaired. Six culverts were constructed while eight more were under construction. Thirty-eight road dams were constructed or were under construction.

Education.—Eleven elementary schools, thirty-eight night schools, thirty-nine adult schools, ten reading rooms and two libraries were started. Five school buildings were constructed whilst thirteen more were under construction. A building for library was also constructed.

Public health.—One hundred and eighty-nine insanitary pits were filled up. Two hundred and thirteen manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Four hundred and fifty-two soak pits were dug.

Agriculture.—Ten acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. A model agricultural farm and fifteen demonstration plots were started. Two hundred and fifty-six manure pits and 74 compost pits were dug.

Miscellaneous.—One of the biggest cattle shows in South India was held at Kannapuram during May 1949. A subsidy of Rs. 500 was sanctioned to the Harijans of the Nagamanaickenpatti, as their houses were destroyed by fire. School books and slates were distributed to the deserving Harijan boys and girls.

Grama seva sanghams.—Fifty-three grama seva sanghams were formed.

Co-operation.—All the revenue villages in this centre were served by co-operative societies. There were 39 rural credit societies, one stores society and eight jaggery societies functioning in this area. Two societies had introduced multi-purpose activities and eight societies had amended their by-laws for undertaking social and recreational activities. A Junior Inspector of Co-operative Societies has been sanctioned to work in this firka.

Avanashi Centre.

Rural water-supply.—Twenty-six new wells were being sunk. Three wells were also sunk by voluntary efforts. Eleven old wells were repaired or improved. Seven old wells were under repair. Two water-tanks were also repaired.

Communications.—Twenty-seven miles and one furlong of roads were formed. Eleven miles of roads were improved. Three roads were under repair. Three road dams were constructed whilst eight more were under construction. A dam across channel and sixteen foot bridges were also constructed or were under construction.

Education.—Five elementary schools, five night schools, five adult schools, one basic education school and three reading rooms were opened. One elementary school was converted into a basic education school. Four reading rooms were improved. Three school buildings were constructed. Two more school buildings were under construction.

Public health.—The construction of a building to locate a maternity centre was completed. Sixteen latrines and six dust-bins were constructed. Twenty-seven insanitary pits were filled up. Four hundred manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Two hundred and sixty-seven soak pits were dug. Thirteen cess-pools were constructed. Fourteen public bath rooms were constructed ; one was under construction. Three first-aid centres were formed.

Agriculture.—One hundred and fifty-eight acres of waste lands were newly brought under cultivation. One hundred and sixty-four manure pits and 172 compost pits were dug.

Irrigation.—Two ponds were repaired. A kalingula for the pond at Ayeegoundanpalayam was constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,200 by the villagers themselves. The anicut at Pudipalayam was repaired.

Grama seva sanghams.—Thirty-four grama seva sanghams were formed.

Electricity.—Eleven electricity schemes have been sanctioned and taken up for this firka at an estimated cost of three lakhs of rupees (nearly). Nine schemes were completed and 92 wells were given supply. The other schemes are under progress. Electricity facilities were extended to seven villages—(1) Chockampalayam, (2) Annur, (3) Avanashi, (4) Sembenallur, (5) Karumapalayam, (6) Karavalur and (7) Rakkipalayam. Pipes were supplied to the ryots.

Co-operation.—All the revenue villages in this firka except seven uninhabited hamlets were covered by co-operative societies. There were 39 rural credit societies, two stores societies two weavers' societies and three milk supply societies functioning in this area. Five societies had introduced multi-purpose activities and two societies had amended their by-laws for undertaking social and recreational activities.

Miscellaneous.—Twenty-eight charkas were purchased and hand-spinning was introduced in Karavalur cheri. Vegetable seeds and green manure seeds were distributed free of cost. Compost-making was demonstrated in three villages. Slates, books, etc., were distributed to poor and deserving students attending night schools. A Harijan colony was completed at a cost of Rs. 6,000 during the year. One thousand four hundred and twenty-eight trees were planted.

CUDDAPAH DISTRICT.

Proddatur Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Sixteen new wells were sunk. Four wells were under construction. Eleven old wells were repaired. Three old wells were under repair.

Communications.—Four miles and 7 furlongs of roads were formed. In addition nineteen roads were formed for which linear measurements are not known. Four roads were under construction. Four miles and two furlongs of roads were improved in addition to 13 other roads. Three roads were under repair. Five cart-tracks and five village rasthas were formed. Eight village rasthas were repaired. Thirteen culverts were constructed, two were repaired and one was under construction. Two road dams were also constructed.

Education.—Nine elementary schools, four night schools, one adult school and two basic education schools were opened; two elementary schools were converted into basic schools. Five reading rooms were started. One building for school and two for reading rooms were constructed. One central library with 18 branch libraries were also opened. One radio set was installed and two radio houses were constructed.

Public health.—One dispensary was opened. Thirteen latrines were constructed; two were repaired and six were under construction. Twenty-six dust-bins were constructed. Three insanitary pits were filled up. Ten manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Ten soak pits were dug. Twelve cass-pools and 100 yards of drain were constructed.

Agriculture.—One hundred acres of waste lands were newly brought under cultivation. Fourteen manure pits and four compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—All villages in this firka were served by co-operative societies. Nine rural credit societies, three stores societies and two weavers' societies were functioning at the end of December 1949. One dormant society was revived.

Animal husbandry.—One breeding buffalo was stationed.

Irrigation.—Two irrigation channels were repaired.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-two grama seva sanghams were formed.

Panchayat Board.—The Panchayat Boards, Tallamapuram, Kallur and Chowdur, were permitted to incur half the cost of radio sets and to maintain them from out of their funds.

Miscellaneous.—Harijan cheries were rebuilt in two villages. One village was rebuilt in a new site.

EAST GODAVARI DISTRICT.

Rajahmundry Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Three new wells were under construction. Twenty-one old wells and four water-tanks were repaired; four old wells were under repair.

Communications.—Four miles and six furlongs of roads were formed. Five roads were under construction. Six village rasthas were formed and 22 were repaired. Four culverts were constructed.

Education.—Eight elementary schools, six night schools and eight adult schools were started. One central library and 20 branch libraries were opened. Six reading rooms were started. One elementary school was converted into basic education school. One radio set was installed and five radio houses were under construction.

Public health.—Seven latrines and 40 dust-bins were constructed. One latrine was repaired. Ninety-three insanitary pits were filled up. Seventy-eight manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Nineteen soak pits were dug and drainage to a length of a mile and half was constructed.

Agriculture.—Three model agricultural farms were started. One hundred and thirteen manure pits and 109 compost pits were dug.

Electricity.—A scheme for extension of supply to eight villages costing Rs. 3·04 lakhs initially raising to 3·937 lakhs in the fourth year has been prepared and is under examination. Seventy wells and other industrial and domestic loads will be connected up under this scheme.

Co-operation.—There are 34 villages and hamlets in this firka, all of which were covered by co-operative societies. Twenty-three rural credit societies, six stores societies, four weavers' societies, ten field labourers' societies and one producers-cum-consumers co-operative society were functioning in this firka. Ten credit societies and four field labourers' societies undertook multi-purpose activities. Amendments to the by-laws of four societies were made to enable them to undertake social and recreational activities.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-five grama seva sanghams were formed.

WEST GODAVARI DISTRICT.

Dendulur Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Fifteen new wells were sunk. Two new wells were under construction. Nine old wells were repaired and one more was under repair. Ten water-tanks were also repaired.

Communications.—Five miles and 3 furlongs of roads were formed in addition to 18 other roads for which linear measurements were not given. Two roads were under construction. Cart-tracks to a length of 7 miles and 5 furlongs were repaired. Fourteen village rasthas were formed and four village rasthas were under repair. Three footpaths were also repaired or were under repair. Fourteen culverts were constructed. Two foot bridges were constructed or were under construction.

Education.—Six elementary schools, 21 night and adult schools, 13 reading rooms and one basic education school were started. Four elementary schools were converted into basic education schools. One central library was opened. Four school buildings and one reading room were constructed and three more school buildings were under construction. Six radio sets including four private sets were installed and two radio houses were constructed.

Public health.—Two dispensaries were opened. Sixteen latrines were constructed. Two latrines were repaired. One hundred and fifty-seven insanitary pits were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Thirty-nine soak pits were dug. Two furlongs length of drainage was constructed. Twelve first-aid centres were formed.

Agriculture.—Three hundred and eighty-three acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. Eight hundred and ninety-five manure pits and 204 soak pits were dug.

Co-operation.—Of the 47 villages in this firka, 26 villages were served by co-operative societies. There were 25 rural credit societies, three stores societies, one milk supply society, one producers-cum-consumers co-operative society and two palm jaggery societies functioning in this firka at the end of December 1949. This is one of the three firkas in which multi-purpose co-operative societies of special type were ordered to be organized. Six multi-purpose co-operative societies covering 10 villages were organized of which two societies at Pedavegi and Jagannadhapuram were registered. A health co-operative society was organized in the Vijayaroy village. Fourteen societies amended their by-laws and converted themselves into multi-purpose societies. Seven of these societies had taken up non-credit activities.

Animal husbandry.—Two stud bulls were supplied.

Irrigation.—Supply channels of 9 miles length were repaired or dug by the villagers at their own cost.

Electricity.—The scheme for extension of supply to 26 villages was sanctioned in September 1949. Supply of power to 306 wells and other industrial and domestic loads will be given under this scheme. Necessary materials for the work are being collected and work will be taken up soon.

Grama seva sanghams.—Forty-six grama sevak sanghams were formed.

Polavaram Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Two new wells were sunk. Eight wells were under construction. Twenty-six old wells were repaired.

Communications.—Four miles and 3 furlongs of roads were formed. Seven roads were under construction. Roads to a length of 1 mile and 7 furlongs were repaired. Roads to a length of 1 mile and 4 furlongs were under repair. Two miles of cart-tracks were formed. Fourteen cart-tracks were repaired. Fourteen village rasthas were also formed. Footpaths to a length of 2 furlongs were formed. Two culverts were constructed.

Education.—Ten elementary schools and five adult schools were started. Three reading rooms were opened and a building for school was constructed. A radio set was installed.

Public health.—One ayurvedic dispensary was opened at Polavaram. Five latrines with water seal squatting slabs were constructed. Two hundred and forty-two manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Two hundred and fifteen insanitary pits were filled up. Two soak pits were dug. Five first-aid centres were formed.

Agriculture.—Five acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. Three model agricultural farms were started. Four hundred and ninety-eight manure pits and 70 compost pits were dug.

Irrigation.—Sluices of Kottur tank were repaired. Because of the timely closure of breaches to Pedralakalva, 500 acres of wet lands were saved from inundation. The flood bank of Kovvada canal was raised to a length of 4 furlongs.

Grama seva sanghams.—Fifty grama seva sanghams were formed.

GUNTUR DISTRICT.

Ongole Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Twenty-one new wells were dug and two were under construction. Fifteen old wells were repaired and one was under repair. Eight water-tanks and two drinking water-ponds were also repaired.

Communications.—Sixteen miles and 5½ furlongs of roads were formed. Two hundred and fifteen yards of roads were improved and two roads were under improvement. Cart-tracks to a length of about 3 miles were formed. Six furlongs length of cart-tracks were repaired. Two

village rasthas were formed. One mile and 3 furlongs of village rasthas were repaired. Foot-paths to a length of 4 miles were formed and foot-paths to a length of 7 furlongs were repaired. Eight culverts were constructed and four were under construction. Twenty-two road dams and four dams across channels were constructed or were under construction.

Education.—Three elementary schools, 26 night schools and one adult school were opened. One elementary school was converted into basic school. Three reading rooms were started. Two reading rooms were improved. One central library and 26 branch and other libraries were opened. Five school buildings were constructed. Two reading rooms and two buildings for libraries were also constructed. Four radio sets were installed.

Public health.—One park was laid out. Three latrines were repaired and two were under construction. Fourteen dust bins were constructed. Sixty-four insanitary pits were filled up. Three hundred and nine manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Thirty-one soak pits were dug. Drainage to a length of 475 yards was constructed.

Agriculture.—About 10 acres of waste lands were newly brought under cultivation. Two model agricultural farms and seven demonstration plots were started. Three hundred and seventy-eight manure pits and seven compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—One co-operative society with multi-purpose objective, three weavers' co-operative societies, six credit co-operative societies, one jaggery production and sales society 14 co-operative stores societies, two building construction societies and one co-operative tanning society were formed or organized.

Irrigation.—Three dams were constructed. Four minor irrigation sources were repaired. Three supply channels were excavated and six channels and nine sluices were repaired. Kudi-maramat work was done to four sources. Repairs to Vallur and Pallur tanks were completed.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-eight grama seva sanghams were formed.

Guruvareddipalem Centre.

Rural water-supply.—Nineteen new wells were sunk and four were under construction. Twelve old wells were repaired.

Communications—Eighteen miles of roads were formed. Five roads were under construction. Two village rasthas of 5 furlongs length were formed. Eight village rasthas to a length of 1 mile and 4½ furlongs were repaired. Twenty-five road dams were constructed or were under construction.

Education.—Thirteen night adult schools and one basic education school were started. Three reading rooms were constructed and a building for library was constructed. Two radio sets were installed..

Publi health.—Four septic tanks-latrines were constructed. One hundred and twenty-five manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling loclaities. Nineteen soak pits were dug.

Agriculture.—Three hundred and forty-one manure pits and fifty compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—Two co-operative societies with multi-purpose objectives, eight weavers' co-operative societies, four credit co-operative societies, four co-operative stores societies and one other co-operative society were formed.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-five grama seva sanghams and four sanitation squads were formed.

Panchayat boards.—The Panchayat boards at Santhanuthalapadu and Lingamgunta were permitted to incur half the cost of radio sets and to maintain them from out of their funds.

Miscellaneous.—Fourteen exotic birds and two sows of Yorkshire breed were supplied.

SOUTH KANARA DISTRICT.

Kumbla Firka.

Rural water-supply.—One new well was sunk; 22 wells were under construction. Four old wells were repaired and one drinking water pond was under repair.

Communications.—Seven miles and 2 furlongs of roads were formed, in addition to four other roads. Seven roads were under construction. One road was improved. Three roads were under repair. Five and half furlongs of cart-tracks were formed in addition to seven other cart-tracks. Seventeen foot-paths were formed or were under formation. Two foot-paths were repaired. Three culverts were constructed, and one was under construction. Five foot bridges were constructed and three were under construction.

Education.—Five elementary schools, five adult schools and one basic training school were opened. Eight reading rooms were started. One central library and 34 branch libraries and other libraries were opened. A library containing Hindi books was also opened. Ten elementary schools were converted into basic schools. Two reading rooms were improved; two school buildings were contructed; two more were under construction. Four radio sets were installed and one radio house was cons[illegible]

Public health.—One rural dispensary was opened. Fifteen latrines were constructed. Two septic tanks and two latrines were under construction. Forty-seven dust bins were constructed. A leprosy clinic was opened. Two hundred insanitary pits were filled up. About twenty soak pits were dug.

Agriculture.—One hundred and seventy-four and half acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation; five model agricultural farms and several demonstration plots were brought into existence. One hundred manure pits and 65 compost pits were dug.

Co operation.—There were 14 credit societies in this firka. Two Dormant societies were revived. Four of the societies had undertaken multi-purpose objectives. There were five co-operative stores in the firka. Two weavers' societies at Perla had produced and sold goods worth Rs. 53,472 during 1949. A grant of Rs. 500 was given from the Firka Development Fund to the cattle breeding society at Badiadka to construct sheds for the three breeding bulls maintained by the society.

Panchayat board.—The Panchayat Board, Perla, was permitted to incur half the cost of radio set and to maintain it from its funds.

Irrigation.—One tank was repaired and five were under repair. Two mud bunds were converted into permanent bunds. One channel was dug. The Shiriya Irrigation Project was in progress. The anicut work in this regard was completed except for fixing shutters to the vents. The excavation of a supply channel in the first 3 miles was completed. The cross drainage works were also in progress. Estimates had been completed in respect of Kumbla Reclamation scheme and the construction of a dam across Shiriya river.

Animal husbandry.—Five breeding bulls and one Murrah buffalo were supplied. Three cattle shows and two cattle exhibitions were held.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-three grama seva sanghams were formed.

Miscellaneous.—A short camp for training constructive workers was conducted. Two agricultural exhibitions and one exhibition of basic school crafts were conducted. A model apiary was opened.

KRISHNA DISTRICT.

Vijayavada and Tiruvur Firkas.

In March 1949, the Government ordered that all further activities in the Vijayavada firka should be stopped from 1st April 1949 as it was decided to change the selected firka from Vijayavada to a more interior firka in the district. All new works were stopped in the Vijayavada firka with effect from 1st April 1949 and some works under 'Village communications' and 'Rural water-supply' which were left incomplete and unpaid for by 31st March 1949 were continued and completed during 1949–50. In August 1949, the Government issued orders transferring the selected firka to the Tiruvur firka. The Firka Development staff shifted to the Tiruvur firka on 1st September 1949 and the work started in that firka with effect from that date. No tangible work was done in the Tiruvur firka as the staff was solely engaged with village surveys, preparation of plans, etc.

Electricity.—Investigation of the feasibility of extending supply to the important villages in the Tiruvur firka had been taken up and was in progress.

Irrigation.—The scheme for the construction of a dam across Vedullavagu, Kakarlamitta was under investigation. The approval of the Hyderabad Government was awaited in regard to the reconstruction of the old 'Rakattu' and excavating supply channel to seven tanks in Tiruvur. Gaugings were taken in respect of Katleru scheme near Kakilamadu.

KURNOOL DISTRICT.

Kurnool Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Five new wells were sunk and eight were under construction. Two old wells were repaired and three were under repair.

Communications.—Seven miles and 1 furlong of roads were formed in addition to ten other roads formed for which linear measurements are not readily known. Two miles of roads were improved. Nineteen lanes in villages were paved with slabs. Five culverts were constructed. One road dam was constructed.

Education.—Seven night and adult schools were started. One school budiling was purchased. One radio set was installed and a radio house was constructed. Sixteen branch and other libraries were opened. One reading room was improved.

Public health.—Eight latrines were constructed and one was under construction. Two maternity centres were opened. Forty-four insanitary pits were filled up. Fifty manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Two hundred and twenty-three soak pits and cess pools were dug. Drainage to a length of 1,000 feet were constructed. Three bath rooms were also constructed.

Agriculture.—Forty acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. Thirty-eight agricultural demonstration plots were started. Fifty-six manure and ten compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—In the 13 villages in the firka, there were 12 rural credit societies serving 13 villages and one society serving entirely one hamlet. One labour contract society was registered and started working at Peddapadu village. One house-site society for the benefit of the Harijans was started.

Electricity.—The scheme for electrification of Rooza village costing Rs. 4,350 was sanctioned. The supply is for domestic and street lighting only. Arrangements were being made to take up the work.

Grama seva sanghams.—Sixteen grama seva sanghams were formed.

Miscellaneous.—Under Collector's discretionary grants works estimated to cost Rs. 20,000 were got executed for which the Government grant was only Rs. 8,500. Three supply channels, one minor irrigation bund and two sluices were repaired. Four stud bulls were supplied.

Yerragondapalem Centre.

Rural water-supply.—Six new wells were sunk and 14 were under construction. Seven old wells were repaired and four were under repair.

Communications.—Fifteen miles of roads were formed. Twenty-four village rasthas were also formed. One culvert was constructed and another culvert was repaired.

Public health.—Two latrines and six dust bins were constructed. One soak pit was dug.

Education.—A reading room was started. Two elementary schools and 18 adult and night schools were opened.

Co-operation.—Sixteen rural credit scoeites were serving 17 villages in this firka. Five house-site societies for the Harijans were organized and pending registration.

Agriculture.—Two agricultural demonstration plots were started. Sixteen manure pits were dug.

Miscellaneous.—One hundred and forty-six charkas were distributed.

Grama seva sanghams.—Seventeen grama seva sanghams were formed.

MATHURAI DISTRICT.

Tirumangalam Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Twenty-six new wells were sunk and eight new wells were under construction. Thirty-one old wells were repaired and one old well was under repair.

Communication.—Eighteen miles of roads were laid and in addition one road was formed. Three furlongs of roads and two other roads were improved; two furlongs of cart-tracks were formed and cart-tracks to a length of 1 mile were repaired. Three other cart-tracks were also repaired. Eleven new culverts and four road dams were constructed. One dam across channel was also constructed.

Education.—Twenty elementary schools, twelve night schools, six adult schools, one basic education school, five reading rooms and a basic training school were opened. One elementary school was converted into basic school. One central library and 46 branch and other libraries were opened. Five reading rooms were improved. Eleven school buildings were constructed. One school building was under construction. Twenty buildings for libraries and reading rooms were constructed or were under construction. Two radio houses were also constructed.

Public health.—Four maternity centres and one dispensary were opened. Twenty latrines of the Wardha type, and eight latrines of other types were constructed. Four latrines were under construction. Two hundred and five insanitary pits were filled up. Two hundred and twenty-five manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Nine public bath rooms were constructed or were under construction. Drainage to a length of 11,249 yards were also constructed. Six first aid centres were formed.

Agriculture.—One hundred and forty-four acres of waste lands were newly brought under cultivation. Eigt hundred and eighteen manure pits and four compost pits were dug.

Irrigation.—Ten minor irrigation tanks and three supply channels were repaired. Repairs to three minor irrigation tanks and a dividing dam were in progress. Repairs to two major Public Works Department tanks were completed and repairs to another tank were in progress. Two ponds were constructed.

Co-operation.—All the villages in this firka had been brought under the co-operative fold. The firka was served by 41 rural credit societies, three Kallar societies, seven stores societies, two weavers' societies, two cottage industries societies, one sale society, one building society two Harijan house-site societies, three milk supply societies, one urban bank and one rural recontruction society. Two multipurpose societies and one weavers' society were organized, 39 co-operative societies had adopted the by-laws relating to multi-purpose societies of the full-fledged type.

Miscellaneous.—Four poultry units and one milk supply unit were opened. Street drains were constructed in 11 villages at a total cost of Rs. 23,700. Streets were levelled up in 13 villages at a total cost of Rs. 11,900. In all these cases, the expenditure was mainly met by the villagers themselves except some nominal contribution from Firka Development Funds.

Grama seva sanghams.—Seventy-six grama seva sanghams were formed.

Electricity.—Six electrification schemes costing about Rs. 3,57,000 have been sanctioned and taken up. The number of villages covered by these schemes is 14 and 125 wells will be connected. Three schemes have been completed and 36 wells have been given electric supply. The work connected with other schemes is under progress.

Panchayat Board.—The Panchayat Board, M. Sengulam, was permitted to incur half the cost of radio set and to maintain it from its funds.

MALABAR DISTRICT.

Tellicherry Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Four new wells were sunk and four more were under construction. Two old wells, three water tanks and seven drinking water ponds were repaired. One drinking water pond was under construction.

Communications.—Twenty-three miles and 6 furlongs of roads were formed in addition to 17 other roads. Seven roads were under construction. Ten miles and 1½ furlongs of roads were improved in addition to 13 other roads. Ten roads were under repair or improvement. Five miles and 7 furlongs of cart-tracks were formed in addition to four other cart-tracks. Two miles and 1 furlong of cart-tracks were repaired. Forty village rasthas were formed. Thirty-two village rasthas were repaired, whilst 14 more were under repair. Nine foot-paths were formed and 12 were in formation. Eight culverts were constructed and the construction of four more was in progress. Two culverts were repaired. Two dams across channels and one foot bridge were constructed.

Education.—One elementary school, 15 night schools and 15 adult schools were opened. Twenty reading rooms were started. One central library and 16 branch libraries were opened. Seven elemntary schools were converted into basic education schools, one new basic school was started, six reading rooms were improved, one school building was constructed and two were under construction. Seven buildings for libraries and reading rooms were constructed or were under construction. One radio set was installed and a radio house was constructed.

Public health.—Six dispensaries, or child welfare centres were opened. Seventeen latrines were constructed, five were repaired and 12 were under construction. Thirty-five insanitary pits were filled up and 25 manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities.

Agriculture.—Twenty acres of waste lands were newly brought under cultivation. 30 agricultural demonstration plots were started. Ninety manure pits and 16 compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—All the villages in this firka were covered by co-operative societies. The firka was served by eight rural credit societies, one stores society, one weavers society, one cottage industries society and ten other types of societies. A milk supply society was organized. Three dormant societies were revived.

Miscellaneous.—A temporary mud dam was constructed. Some rams and one Scindhi bull were stationed. A Women's Welfare centre was opened. Two agricultural exhibitions were conducted. Two cottage industries units were started.

Grama seva sanghams.—Sixteen grama seva sanghams were formed.

Payyanur-cum-Nileswar Centre.

Rural water-supply.—Twelve new wells were under construction. One old well was under repair.

Communications.—Twenty-two miles and four furlongs of roads were formed in addition to five other roads for which linear measurements are not readily known. Four roads were under construction. Three furlongs of roads were improved. One foot path was formed and four repaired. Five culverts were constructed. Seven foot-bridges were constructed and two were under construction.

Education.—Two elementary schools, two higher elementary schools, two night schools, three adult schools and five reading rooms were started. Ten reading rooms and libraries were improved. One school building was constructed and another was under construction. Six buildings for libraries were constructed and five more were under construction. One radio set was installed.

Public health.—Seven leaching type latrines and 50 pit latrines were constructed. Ninety three more latrines were under construction. One septic tank was under construction.

Agriculture.—Seventy-five manure pits and 25 compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—All the villages in this centre were covered by co-operatives. Five credit societies, one stores society, one weavers' society and one producers-cum-consumers society were functioning in this firka. A bell metal workers society was organized at Payyanoor. The Payyanur Adi-Dravida society was recently revived.

Irrigation.—The construction of a bund with sluice gate on Chemmakkara stream at Nileshwar and another at Anachal on the way to Kothapuram, the repairing of a channel from Thora to Berumpusha and a canal called Narangathodu were all sanctioned under the Collector's lump-sum grant under the Firka Development Scheme.

Animal husbandry.—Three stud bulls were stationed. Four bulls are now serving the firka. Three breeding bucks were supplied free of cost for breeding purposes. Six cockerels were, supplied.

Miscellaneous.—Sports clubs were organized in three villages. Fish seedling and bee-hives were also supplied. One water trough was also constructed. A subsidy of Rs. 500 was paid to the Harijan Hostel at Payyanur and another subsidy of Rs. 325 was given to the Raman Thali Panchayat Board for the installation of a battery radio set. One load rest and a water trough were constructed in Payyanur village. Five bee-hives were supplied. A building for housing a Harijan Seva Sedan was in progress. Five petromax lights were sanctioned to be purchased for conducting night schools in the villages.

Grama seva sanghams.—Eighteen grama seva sanghams were formed.

Nellore District.

Kanupur Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Three new wells were sunk and seven were under construction. Twenty old wells were repaired or improved.

Communications.—Three miles and six furlongs of roads were formed; three roads were under construction; three more roads were under repair or improvement. Village rasthas to a length of two miles were repaired; three village rasthas were under repair. Two culverts were constructed and one was under construction.

Education.—One elementary school and five adult schools were started; one central library and twenty branch and other libraries were opened; two school buildings were constructed.

Public health.—Two latrines of the Wardha type were also constructed. Thirty-four Grama Seva Sanghams and sanitation committees were organized. Eleven manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Two soak pits were dug.

Agriculture.—One hundred and fifty acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation; 43 manure pits and 10 compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—There were 23 rural credit societies, three weavers societies, two stores societies, three palmyrah jaggery societies, a house site society, a loan and sale society, a milk supply society and a labour contract society serving in the firka.

Irrigation.—The work in respect of repairs to Madamanur large tank, Madamanur small tank and Veeranakanpur tank was in progress. Silt clearance work in Kamalapudiana tank was done at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,500.

Miscellaneous.—A cattle show-cum-agricultural and industrial exhibition was held at Venkatachalam. Two women welfare centres were opened.

The Nilgiris District.

Kunda Firka.

Rural water-supply.—One water tank was repaired. Five drinking water ponds were under construction. Mukkimalai water-supply scheme was in progress.

Communications.—Nine miles and five furlongs of roads were formed in addition to seven other roads for which linear measurements were not given. Two roads were under construction. Five miles of roads were improved. Two roads were under repair. Three miles of cart-tracks and two miles of village rasthas were formed. One mile length of village rasthas was repaired. Two furlongs length of footpaths were formed and two furlongs length were repaired. Six culverts were constructed and six more were under construction. Three culverts were repaired One foot-bridge was constructed.

Education.—Eight elementary schools, three night schools, one adult school, and one reading room were opened. One reading room was improved. One central library and ten branch libraries were opened. One school building was under construction. One radio set was installed.

Public health.—One maternity centre and another maternity ward were opened. Seven latrines were constructed. One latrine was repaired. Fourteen insanitary pits were filled up. Ten manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Drainage to a length of 100 yards was constructed.

Agriculture.—Three hundred and fifty acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. Sixty-five manure pits and 12 compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—There were 31 rural credit societies, three co-operative stores societies and one spinners and weavers' society in the area. All the villages in the firka had been brought under the area of operation of the existing societies and 64 per cent of the total population in the firka were served by the co-operatives. A co-operative spinning and weavers' society was started on work at Balacola and a sum of Rs. 500 was sanctioned by the Collector of the Nilgiris out of his discretionary grant, to the society for the purchase of necessary charkas and implements for the use of the members.

Electricity.—The Balacola village and 11 other hamlets were provided with electricity connections.

Animal husbandry.—Three stud-bulls and one Murrah buffalo were stationed. Two cattle shows were organized.

Grama seva sanghams.—Seven grama seva sanghams and four sanitation committees were formed.

Miscellaneous.—A sum of Rs. 5,000 was paid as grants-in-aid for constructing the 'Hindi Prem Mandal' building at Nanjanad.

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT.

Malli Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Nine new wells were sunk and five were under construction. Thirteen old wells were repaired and seven were under repair. One drinking water pond was repaired. Three old wells were under repair.

Communications.—Eight miles and two furlongs of roads were formed. Three roads were under construction. Two cart-tracks were repaired.

Education.—One Elementary school and 11 adult schools were started. A reading room was opened. Five elementary schools were converted into basic schools. One central library and 22 branch libraries were opened. Four school buildings were constructed and one was under construction. Four reading rooms were also constructed. A radio set was installed and a radio house was constructed.

Public health.—A dispensary was started. Two maternity and child-welfare centres were also opened. Two latrines were under construction. Ten insanitary pits were filled up. Two hundred and fifty-six manure pits were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Seven public bath-rooms were constructed. Drainage to a length of 1,640 feet was also constructed.

Agriculture.—Hundred and twenty acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. Two agricultural plots were started. Fifty-eight manure pits were dug.

Co-operation.—In this firka 12 out of 13 villages were covered by co-operative societies. The villages were served by nine rural credit societies, three stores societies and three agricultural implements societies. Three Harijan house-site societies were also organized.

Grama seva sanghams.—Forty-seven grama seva sanghams were formed.

SALEM DISTRICT.

Veerapandy Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Nineteen new wells were sunk and nine new wells were under construction. Eighteen old wells and three drinking water ponds were repaired.

Communications.—About 12 miles and one furlong of roads were laid and in addition nine roads were formed. Three roads were under construction. Four miles and one furlong of roads were improved. Two cart-tracks were formed and cart-tracks to a length of 2 miles and 3 furlongs were repaired. Three furlongs of village rasthas were formed and one furlong length of village rasthas were repaired. Two culverts were constructed and one culvert was under construction. Besides two culverts were repaired. One foot-bridge was constructed.

Education.—One elementary school, 17 night schools and seven reading rooms and one basic education school was started. One central library and twenty branch libraries were opened. Ten reading rooms and libraries were improved. Four school buildings were constructed and seven school buildings were under construction. Two reading rooms were constructed and two were under construction. Three radio sets were installed and two radio houses were constructed.

Public health.—Four dispensaries and two child-welfare centres were opened. Two cess-pool public latrines, five cess pool private latrines and six one seated septic tank latrines were constructed ; eight latrines were repaired ; six septic tanks were constructed or were under construction. Twenty dust bins were constructed. Three hundred insanitary pits were filled up and 345 manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Sixty soak pits were dug. Fifty cess-pools were constructed. Nine public bath-rooms were constructed or were under construction. Drainage to a length of 7,039 feet was formed

Agriculture.—75·5 acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. One hundred and fifty manure pits and 45 compost pits were dug.

Electricity.—Two electrification schemes estimated to cost of Rs. 2,35,350 which will cover nine villages and supply eighty wells have been sanctioned. The works are under progress.

Irrigation.—Six minor irrigation sources were repaired. Two supply channels were excavated and six were repaired. Two sluices were also repaired.

Co-operation.—Of the 28 villages in this firka 24 villages were served by co-operative societies. There were 14 rural credit societies, four weavers' societies, three cottage industries societies and three other types of societies functioning in this firka. One carpet weavers' co-operative society was organized at Pethanpatti in December 1949.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-seven grama seva sanghams were formed.

Miscellaneous.—Four playgrounds were formed. Two hundred and twelve charkas and 500 talkies were introduced.

TANJORE DISTRICT.

Salimangalam Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Twelve draw wells and 15 bore wells were sunk and work on two bore wells was in progress. Besides one draw well was repaired.

Communications.—Roads were formed for a length of 9 miles and 6 furlongs. In addition twenty roads were formed, two roads were improved and work on four roads was in progress. Four footpaths were formed and 28 culverts and one revetment was constructed.

Education.—Two elementary schools, seven night schools and one reading room were started. One central library and 23 branch libraries were opened. One school building was constructed and another school building was under construction. One radio set was installed.

Public health.—One maternity and child-welfare centre was opened. One Wardha type latrine and 23 latrines of other types were constructed. Twenty-three septic tanks were constructed or were under construction. Sixteen insanitary pits were filled up whilst fifty manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Two soak pits were dug.

Agriculture.—Hundred acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. One hundred and six manure pits and 48 compost pits were dug whilst 143 manure pits and 10 compost pits were rectified.

Irrigation.—Three irrigation dams were constructed. The following works have been completed :—

(i) Construction of a culvert across Vikramanar channel at mile 3/3–4 in Devambalpuram village limits ;

(ii) construction of a culvert across Mahimalai channel, Devambalpuram village limits ;

(iii) improvement to tail end dam of Vikramannar channel at mile 4/6 for converting the same as a foot-bridge and providing shutter planks, etc. ;

(iv) widening the right bank of Vannar from 53/0–53–6 for use as road to connect the nearby villages with Mahimalai ferry site across Vennar at mile 53/6.

The work of providing bunds for Samandan Cauvery to prevent inundation of wet lands in Ukkadai Sirumathur limits is in progress.

The scheme for providing a syphon for Vennaputhur drainage channel across Malayapuram channel has been investigated.

Co-operation.—There are 31 villages in this firka of which 19 villages were served by co-operative societies. Fourteen rural credit societies, one weavers' society, three cottage industries societies, one irrigation society and one milk supply society were functioning in this firka. A house-site society was organized and started work at Krishnapuram for the benefit of Harijans.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-nine grama seva sanghams were formed.

Miscellaneous.—An Agricultural and Cottage Industries Exhibition was conducted.

TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT.

Pazhamcottai Firka.

Introductory.—The intensive rural reconstruction work in the Tirunelveli district had been in force in Cheranmahadevi firka. Certain representations were received to the effect that Cheranmahadevi firka was not well fitted for carrying on the scheme and that it was desirable to shift the intensive rural reconstruction work in that district to some other area better suited for the purpose. After careful examination of the matter, the Government ordered in March 1949 that Firka Development work should be shifted to Pazhamcottai firka. Much headway was not therefore made in the matter of execution of works in that firka during 1949.

Rural water-supply.—Fifteen new wells were under construction. Four old wells were under repair. Three drinking water ponds were under construction.

Communications.—Five thousand two hundred and sixty feet and another 3 miles, 5 furlongs and 300 feet of roads were formed ; six new roads were under construction ; two village rasthas of 950 feet length were formed ; and seven village rasthas were under repair. The construction of three culverts was in progress.

Education.—Three elementary schools, three night schools and one basic education school were started. One central library and 31 branch libraries were opened. Two elementary schools were converted into basic schools. Two libraries were improved. One radio set was installed. A building for libraries and another for housing the radio sets were constructed. Five buildings for libraries were constructed or were under construction.

Public health.—Fifteen latrines of the Wardha type were constructed ; three more latrines were under construction ; two septic tanks were also constructed. Fifteen insanitary pits were filled up. Sixteen manure heaps were removed to outside the dwelling places. Seventeen soak pits were dug. Ten cess-pools were constructed. A drainage to a length of 1,603 feet was also constructed.

Agriculture.—One hundred and sixty acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. A model agricultural farm was started. Fifteen manure pits and 12 compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—Out of 28 villages including 17 zamin villages in this firka, twenty villages were within the co-operative fold. Nineteen rural credit societies and one milk supply society were serving the villages in this centre. Nineteen co-operative societies have provision in their bye-law for undertaking multi-purposes activities and of these, 12 societies actually undertook multi-purpose or social and recreational activities. A co-operative milk supply society was organized and started work at Kurivikulam.

Irrigation.—Repairs to the bund and sluices of Sayamalai Periyakulam were carried out at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,400. Special repairs to the outlet on the supply channel at the left flank of the above tank estimated to cost Rs. 3,200 was in progress.

Grama seva sanghams.—Thirty-one grama seva sanghams were formed.

Miscellaneous.—Two veterinary first aid centres and three poultry units were started. Three Murrah buffaloes were supplied.

TIRUCHIRAPPALLI DISTRICT.

Musiri Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Fourteen new wells were sunk and four were under construction. Seven old wells were repaired and two were under repair.

Communications.—Fifteen miles and 6 furlongs of roads were formed. Five roads were under construction. Fifteen miles of cart-tracks were formed. Thirteen culverts were constructed and five were under construction. Four culverts were repaired. Two road dams were formed, two other road dams across channels and two foot-bridges were constructed.

Education.—Three elementary schools and eight night schools were opened. Four reading rooms were improved. One central library and 18 branch and other libraries were opened. Two school buildings were constructed and three were under construction. Five radio sets were installed ; two radio houses were constructed.

Public health.—One maternity and child-welfare centre was opened. Four dust bins were constructed. Thirty-eight insanitary pits were filled up. Two hundred and thirty-seven manure heaps were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Drainage to a length of 100 feet was constructed. Three first aid centres were formed.

Agriculture.—One hundred and fifty acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. Two hundred manure pits and compost pits were dug.

Irrigation.—Three kalingulas and two tanks were repaired.

Co-operation.—There are 23 villages in this firka and 21 of them were being served by co-operative societies. Twelve rural credit societies, one boat building society and one milk supply society were functioning in this area. Two house-site societies and an egg production and sale society were organized.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty grama seva sanghams were formed.

Miscellaneous.—Green manure seeds to the value of Rs. 5.000 were distributed to encourage the ryots. Four chaff cutters were supplied. Cockerels were supplied in six villages at half the cost price.

VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT.

Gara Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Thirteen new wells were under construction. Six old wells were repaired. Three water tanks were also repaired.

Communications.—Eight miles of roads were formed in addition to nine other roads for which linear measurements were not available. Nine more roads were under construction. Three miles of roads were improved. Cart-tracts to a length of two miles were formed in addition to eight small cart-tracks. Two village rasthas were formed and one was repaired. Three culverts and two road dams were constructed.

Education.—Nineteen elementary schools, three night schools, three adult schools, one central library and 23 branch libraries were opened. Two basic education schools were started whilst three elementary schools were converted into basic education schools. One reading room was improved. Eight buildings for schools were constructed and one more was under construction.

Public health.—Two latrines were repaired and three septic tanks were constructed. Six dust bins were also constructed. Ninety-seven insanitary pits were filled up and 49 manure pits were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Four soak pits were dug. Six first aid centres were formed.

Agriculture.—One hundred and sixty acres of waste lands were newly brought under cultivation. A model agricultural farm and two demonstration plots were started. Five hundred and twenty-five manure pits and 153 compost pits were dug.

Co-operation.—All the 27 villages in this firka are covered by rural co-operatives. Eighteen rural credit societies, three stores societies, one weavers' and one fishermen co-operatives were functioning in the firka. Eight rural credit societies had undertaken multi-purpose activities.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-two grama seva sanghams were formed.

Pendurthi Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Eleven new wells were sunk and two were under construction. Nine old wells were repaired and one was under repair. One water tank was also repaired.

Communications.—One mile and 3 furlongs of roads were laid in addition to ten other roads for which linear measurements were not given. Four roads were under construction. Two furlongs length of cart-tracks were formed and one furlong length of cart-track was repaired. Village rasthas to a length of 1 mile were formed and to a length of another mile were repaired. Ten culverts were constructed and two culverts were under construction. One road dam and two dams across channels were also constructed.

Education.—Ten elementary schools, three night schools and three adult schools were opened. One central library and 14 branch libraries were also opened. Two basic education schools were started, three elementary schools were converted into basic education schools. Twelve buildings for schools were constructed.

Public health.—Three latrines of the Wardha type were also constructed. Sixty-five insanitary pits were filled up and thirty manure pits were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Five soak pits were dug. Six cess pools were constructed. Five first-aid centres were formed.

Agriculture.—Seventy-five acres of waste lands were newly brought under cultivation. Two model agricultural farms and three agricultural demonstration plots were also started. One hundred and fifty-two manure pits were dug.

Co-operation.—All the 23 villages in this firka were served by the existing 16 rural credit societies. Social and recreational activities were undertaken by some of the societies.

Electricity.—A restricted scheme for extension of electricity to seven villages in this firka was sanctioned. Supply to domestic and industrial loads would be given under this scheme. The work had been taken up and was in progress.

Grama seva sanghams.—Twenty-two grama seva sanghams were organized.

Kotauratla Firka.

Rural water-supply.—Thirteen new wells were sunk and three new wells were under construction. Two old wells were repaired and two were under repair.

Communications.—Two miles and 6 furlongs of roads were formed in addition to four other roads for which linear measurements were not given. One road was under construction. Six furlongs length of roads were improved in addition to one other road. Cart-tracks to a length of 1 mile 2 furlongs were formed in addition to five other cart-tracks. Two foot-paths were formed and one was repaired. Eight culverts were constructed, in addition to one other road dam.

Education.—Two elementary schools, two night schools and six adult schools were started. Three reading rooms were opened. A building for schools was constructed, whilst another was under construction. A building for library was also constructed. A radio set was installed.

Public health.—Twenty bore hole type latrines were constructed. Four hundred and forty insanitary pits were filled up and 710 manure pits were removed to places outside dwelling localities. Twenty-five soak pits were dug and 12 cess-pools were constructed. Five first-aid centres were formed.

Agriculture.—One hundred and fifty acres of waste lands were newly brought under cultivation. A model agricultural farm and twenty agricultural demonstration plots were started. Three hundred and five manure pits were dug in addition to 30 compost pits.

Irrigation.—Eight tanks were repaired.

Co-operation.—All the 20 villages in this firka are covered by 13 rural credit societies. One Harijan co-operative society was organized at Kotauratla.

Grama seva sanghams.—Thirty-one grama seva sanghams were organized.

Madugula Firka.

Rural water-supply.—A new well was under construction. Fourteen old wells were repaired or improved.

Communications.—Three miles and 3 furlongs of roads were laid. Two roads were improved. Four road dams were constructed in addition to a foot bridge.

Education.—Nine elementary schools were started.

Public health.—Sixty-three insanitary pits were filled up.

Agriculture.—Sixty-eight acres of land were newly brought under cultivation. Fifteen compost pits were dug.

Irrigation.—Nine minor irrigation sources were repaired.

Grama seva sanghams.—Seventeen grama seva sanghams were organized.

ANNEXURE II.

	Consolidated progress report of the work done under the Firka Development Scheme from the commencement up to 31st December 1949.
1. Rural water-supply—	
(1) Number of new wells sunk	420
(2) Number of old wells repaired or improved	309
(3) Number of water tanks repaired	44
(4) Number of drinking water ponds repaired	49
2. Village communications—	
(1) Length of roads formed	435 miles, 4 furlongs.
(2) Number of roads formed in addition to item (1) above for which linear measurements are not given.	154
(3) Length of roads improved	43 miles, 2 furlongs.
(4) Number of roads improved in addition to item (3) above for which linear measurements are not given.	65
(5) Length of cart-tracks formed	62 miles.
(6) Number of cart-tracks formed in addition to item (5) above.	41
(7) Length of cart-tracks repaired	14 miles.
(8) Number of cart-tracks repaired in addition to item (7) above.	25
(9) Number or length of village rasthas formed	52 numbers.
(10) Number or length of village rasthas repaired	59 numbers and 3 miles.
(11) Number or length of footpaths formed and in formation ..	40
(12) Number of length or footpaths repaired and under repair.	28 numbers and 3 miles, 6 furlongs.
(13) Number of culverts constructed	180
(14) Number of culverts repaired and under repair	13
(15) Number of road dams constructed and under construction.	88
(16) Number of dams across channels constructed	24
(17) Number of foot bridges constructed and under construction.	39
3. Education—	
(1) Number of elementary schools opened	200
(2) Number of night schools started	294
(3) Number of adult schools started	223
(4) Number of reading rooms started	134
(5) Number of central libraries opened	25
(6) Number of branch libraries and other libraries opened ..	538
(7) Number of basic education schools started	16
(8) Number of elementary schools converted into basic education schools.	47
(9) Number of reading rooms and libraries improved	63
(10) Number of school buildings constructed	92
(11) Number of buildings for libraries constructed and under construction.	44
(12) Number of reading rooms constructed and under construction.	52
(13) Number of radio sets installed	44
(14) Number of radio houses constructed and under construction.	18
(15) Number of villages in which compulsory education was introduced.	47
4. Medical and Public Health—	
(1) Number of dispensaries, ayurvedic dispensaries, maternity centres and child welfare centres opened.	55
(2) Number of latrines constructed—	
(a) Wardha type	86
(b) Other types	149

	Consolidated progress report of the work done under the Firka Development Scheme from the commencement up to 31st December 1949.
4. Medical and Public Health—*cont.*	
(3) Number of latrines repaired	27
(4) Number of septic tanks constructed and under construction	75
(5) Number of dust bins constructed	267
(6) Number of sanitation committees and Grama Sevak Sanghams formed.	1,050
(7) Number of insanitary pits filled up	2,666
(8) Number of manure heaps removed to outside the dwelling places.	3,763
(9) Number of soak pits dug	1,622
(10) Number of cess-pools constructed	200
(11) Number of bath rooms constructed and under construction.	53
(12) Length of drainage constructed	14 miles, 4 furlongs.
(13) Number of first-aid centres formed	49
5. Agriculture—	
(1) Number of acres of waste land brought under cultivation	3,070 acres.
(2) Model agriculture farms started	30
(3) Agricultural demonstration plots started	389
(4) Number of manure pits dug	7,460
(5) Number of compost pits dug	1,634
6. Irrigation—	
(1) Ponds constructed	2
(2) Dams constructed	11
(3) Minor irrigation tanks, lakes, ponds, etc., repaired	62
(4) Supply channels excavated	10
(5) Channels repaired	23
(6) Sluices repaired	29
(7) Kudimaramat work done	2
7. Co-operation—	
(1) Number of co-operative societies with multi-purpose objectives formed.	144
(2) Number of weavers' co-operative societies formed	23
(3) Number of credit co-operative societies formed	297
(4) Number of milk-supply co-operative societies formed	15
(5) Number of labour co-operative societies formed	13
(6) Number of jaggery production and sales co-operative societies formed.	35
(7) Number of co-operative stores societies organized	104
(8) Number of building construction; kambli weavers; students; cattle breeding and eggs production and sales co-operative societies formed.	40
(9) Number of other co-operative societies formed in addition to above.	10

PART II.

GOVERNMENT KHADI SCHEME.

This Government took up at about the end of 1946 a scheme for the development of khadi as an integral part of a wider scheme to make the villages of the Province self-sufficient economic units. The intensive part of the scheme was introduced early in 1947 in the following seven selected centres of the Province in which khadi had already been developed to some extent by the efforts of the All-India Spinners' Association.

Name of centre.		Number of villages, comprising the centre.
Avanashi	(in Tamil Nad)	28
Chinnasalem	(in Tamil Nad)	49
Vellakoil	(in Tamil Nad)	21
Payyanur (in Kerala)		15
Erragondapalem	(in Andhra)	19
Guruvareddipalem	(in Andhra)	21
Kota-Uratla	(in Andhra)	31

The scheme was prepared in close collaboration with the All-India Spinners' Association and received the blessings of Gandhiji himself. The All-India Spinners' Association has also lent a good portion of the staff to man the centres.

2. Under the Intensive Khadi Scheme, the financial and administrative supervision in respect of the scheme was entrusted to the Provincial Textile Commissioner till April 1948. In May 1948, the administration of the scheme was transferred to the Provincial Firka Development Officer, who was made the head of the department for the purpose. The Provincial Firka Development Officer is assisted by a gazetted officer with the rank of a Deputy Collector designated as "Khadi Special Officer."

The local Branch Secretaries of the All-India Spinners' Association were appointed as Honorary Regional Khadi Officers in their respective areas. A Centre Khadi Officer was appointed to each centre to attend to day-to-day administration of the centre under the instructions and guidance of the respective Honorary Regional Khadi Officers.

3. The main object of the scheme was to attain self-sufficiency in cloth in terms of khadi in the villages included in the centres by producing sufficient cloth to clothe the entire population at the rate of 20 yards per adult and 10 yards per child per annum. Each of the centres selected contains a large number of habitual spinners. But there were also many families in the centres owning no spinning wheel or having not even one of their members spinning habitually. Intensive propaganda had, therefore, to be carried on to introduce at least one charka into each family having none, and to encourage each family in the centre to contribute at least one efficient spinner. The propaganda was made the responsibility of Village Khadi Committees constituted for each village in the centre, and of Centre Khadi Committees constituted one for each centre. The Centre Khadi Committees were also charged with the responsibility for reviewing the progress of the schemes frequently and ensuring its successful working.

4. The Government undertook to give the assistance asked for by the local committees in regard to the supply of charkas and carding and slivering equipments required for the families residing in the centres. This equipment supplied by the Government was sold at cost price, but in the case of Harijans and other persons as to whose poverty the Centre Khadi Officer is satisfied the price is recovered in not more than twelve instalments. As an incentive to self-carding, guts were supplied to spinners at concessional prices.

Provision was also made for the supply of cotton to all spinners in the area who do not grow it themselves. The spinners were encouraged to grow their own cotton and to attend to ginning, carding and slivering themselves. Hand-ginning was encouraged in preference to machine-ginning. The use of waste cotton or mill-made slivers was prohibited.

Provision was also made in the scheme to grant a subsidy of about 4 annas per yard to spinners who take the cloth made out of their own yarn to meet the clothing requirements of themselves or their families.

5. In spite of the facilities provided for the spinners to take khadi for their own requirements the khadi produced in the Intensive Khadi Centre was in excess of the consumption by the spinners. In order to extend the benefits of the scheme to the residents of the respective Centres, Government have ordered that the khadi produced at the centres should be supplied also to the residents of the villages included in the Centres. Further, the Government have also directed that khadi should be used for all State purposes, that all officers of the Government who have

been enjoined to use uniforms should use khadi for the purpose and that the requirements of all departments of the Government in cloth should be met from khadi. The surplus khadi cloth was thus supplied to Government departments, local bodies and other Government institutions.

6. During the period under review a total quantity of 2,585,886 yards of khadi was produced out of which a quantity of 1,418,176 yards was consumed within the centres, and a quantity of 715,351 yards was sold outside the centres to the Government departments, local bodies, etc. The quantity consumed within the centres includes the cloth got woven by self-spinners on subsidy basis, which is 863,607 yards. The progress of work in the intensive khadi centres from the inception of the scheme up to 31st December 1949 is shown in the Statement I attached.

7. The total expenditure incurred during the period under review on the Intensive Khadi Scheme as a whole was Rs. 41,01,673 while the total receipts by the sale of cloth, implements and cotton were Rs. 21,52,775. The scheme was included in the list of Post-War Development schemes, eligible for financial assistance from the Government of India. On the whole this Government have realized a sum of Rs. 10,90,139 by way of grant from the Government of India for the years 1947–48 and 1948–49, and a sum of Rs. 2,77,249 has been claimed for the year 1949–50 up to 31st December 1949. A statement showing the details of expenditure incurred up to 31st December 1949 on the several items noted in it is attached.

8. The extensive khadi scheme was sanctioned in May 1949. It has been introduced in the following nineteen selected firkas :—

(1) Hindupur (Anantapur district).

(2) Proddatur (Cuddapah district).

(3) Dendulur (West Godavari district).

(4) Rajahmundry (East Godavari district).

(5) Ongole (Guntur district).

(6) Kanupur (Nellore district).

(7) Gara (Visakhapatnam district).

(8) Polavaram (West Godavari district).

(9) Alur (Bellary district).

(10) Kalasapakkam (North Arcot district).

(11) Kadambuliyur (South Arcot district).

(12) Tiruvallur (Chingleput district).

(13) Palladam (Coimbatore district).

(14) Tellicherry (Malabar district).

(15) Tirumangalam (Mathurai district).

(16) Malli (Ramnad district).

(17) Virapandi (Salem district).

(18) Saliamangalam (Tanjore district).

(19) Pazhancottai (Tirunelveli district).

The scheme provides for the introduction of 1,000 charkas a year, in each of the 19 selected firkas. Under this scheme also arrangements have been made for supplying charkas at a concession price, and for the supply of cotton and instruments. Subsidy is paid to self-spinners as in the Intensive Khadi scheme. The intention is that the Extensive Khadi scheme should pave the way for the introduction of the Intensive Khadi scheme in due course.

9. As it was pointed out to the Government that the private producers and dealers in khadi were exploiting the national sentiment in favour of khadi and did not care for the genuineness of the stuff produced or distributed by them, the Government have decided to allow, under a system of licensing, a small number of private producers and dealers to function only in those areas where the Government or the All-India Spinners' Association are not now operating subject o such restrictions designed to ensure the genuineness of the khadi produced and the payment f a living wage to the artisans concerned. In order to avoid unhealthy competition and to ilitate inspection and scrutiny, the activities of each producer or dealer are restricted to a cified locality. To give effect to these decisions, the Government issued the Madras Khadi velopment) Order, 1949, repealing the Madras Khadi (Control) Order, 1947, with effect from 7th February 1949. The new order requires that every producer of and dealer in khadi obtain a licence from the Provincial Firka Development Officer for carrying on business. ine producers' licences and 233 dealers' licences have been issued up to 31st December

STATEMENT I.—*Showing the progress of work in the Government Intensive Khadi Centres, from the inception of the scheme up to 31st December 1949.*

Centres.	Cotton distributed.	Yarn.		Khadi produced.		Khadi consumed.		Subsidy paid to self-spinners.
		Purchased from spinners.	Issued for weaving.	On Government account.	By self spinners on subsidy basis.	By the public within the Centres.	By Government departments and local bodies.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	LB.	LB.	LB.	YDS.	YDS.	YDS.	YDS.	RS.
Vellakoil	162,576	267,774	263,018	711,903	157,888	347,343	184,057	29,604
Avanashi	54,912	149,002	159,475	438,102	62,933	176,134	257,604	11,800
Chinnasalem ..	21,103	65,331	55,737	170,939	32,407	106,625	..	6,076
Kota-Uratla ..	85,894	69,737	66,535	142,607	39,607	86,184	63,110	4,952
Guruvareddipalem.	25,227	17,445	16,182	49,914	140,092	158,263	2,189	26,267
Erragondapalem.	2,658	1,159	1,144	3,639	416,765	420,262	..	52,096
Payyanur ..	63,346	74,741	75,530	205,175	13,915	123,365	36,318	2,609
Total ..	415,716	645,189	637,621	1,722,279	863,607	1,418,176*	543,278	1,33,404

* Includes the cloth consumed on subsidy basis.

STATEMENT II.—*Showing the expenditure on Intensive Khadi Scheme from the inception of the scheme up to 31st December 1949.*

		RS.
1	Pay of officers and establishments	2,74,716
2	Dearness allowance	16,298
3	Travelling allowance and other compensatory allowances	64,700
4	Cost of charkas and implements	56,669
5	Cost of cotton	4,95,915
6	Carding and slivering charges	23,655
7	Cost of yarn	16,51,347
8	Weaving wages	8,31,371
9	Bleaching, dyeing and printing charges	2,69,426
10	Expenditure on training courses	1,54,016
11	Propaganda and publicity	12,419
12	Subsidy	1,33,403
13	Contingencies	1,20,185

MISCELLANEOUS.

RURAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 65, 1st August 1950

Administration Report—Department of Firka Development (since re-designated as Rural Welfare Department)—Report for the period ending with December 1949—Recorded.

READ—the following paper :—

From the Provincial Firka Development Officer, dated 15th July 1950, No. Nil.

Order—No. 65, Rural Welfare, dated 1st August 1950.

Recorded.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

M. S. JAGANNAYAKULU,
Secretary to Government.

To the Provincial Firka Development Officer, Madras-9.
Copy to the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras.